

2 killed, 23 injured in suicide attack

TUNCELI (AP) — A bomb strapped on a woman's body exploded during a military ceremony in this eastern town Sunday, killing two soldiers and injuring 23 people, Anatolia news agency said. Many of the wounded were in serious condition at various hospitals in town, Anatolia said. Kurdish rebels and leftist militants have long been active in Tunceli. Recent reports had indicated the Kurdistan Labour Party, fighting for autonomy since 1984, was preparing for such attacks in response to a three-month crackdown by the military on the rebels. Suicide bombings are unheard of in Turkey. The military claims to have killed more than 1,100 Kurdish guerrillas during its offensive throughout the southeast since April. Some 100 soldiers have also been killed.



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Assad's message to King 'opens door for future meetings' — Kabariti

Premier says terrorism in all its forms must be fought

By Tareq Momani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti told the Senate Sunday that His Majesty King Hussein has received a message from Syrian President Hafez Assad that would open "door for future meetings between the two leaders following their Cairo meeting during the Arab summit," Senate Speaker Ahmad Lawzi said.

Speaking to reporters after Mr. Kabariti briefed the Senate on the outcome of the summit, Mr. Lawzi quoted the prime minister as saying that the Syrian president's message was delivered by the Syrian Charge d'Affaires Wahib Jaber Saturday.

Asked if the message contained an invitation for the King to visit Damascus, Mr.

Lawzi said: "The prime minister only mentioned the message and its objectives without giving further details."

Referring to the other topics reviewed at the meeting, Mr. Lawzi said that "the prime minister briefed the Senate on the meetings in Cairo and King Hussein's side talks with Arab leaders, including the Syrian president during which he reaffirmed Jordan's absolute support for excellent relations with Damascus on the basis of the Kingdom's beliefs that the Arab states have common goals and face common destiny."

The prime minister briefed the Senate on Jordan's relations with other countries including Iran and Turkey and said that such relations should be based on mutual respect and close cooperation and

non-interference in the internal affairs of any other country, Mr. Lawzi said.

He quoted Mr. Kabariti as telling the Senate that "the security of each Arab state is an integral part of the overall Arab nation's security and that all Arab states should remain committed to safeguarding the national security and should respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all Arab countries and combat acts of terrorism in all their forms."

In his briefing Mr. Kabariti reiterated Jordan's support for the Palestinian people in their drive to regain their rights and establish their independent state in Palestine. He also reaffirmed Jordan's commitment to the achievement of comprehensive peace in the Middle East.



German team captain Jurgen Klinsmann lifts the European Soccer Championship trophy after Germany defeated the Czech Republic 2-1 in the final match at Wembley Stadium. See story page 11 (Reuters photo)

Kahalani threatens to close Orient House

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Amid reports Sunday that Israel would bar foreign ministers and other diplomats from Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) headquarters in East Jerusalem, an Israeli minister said he planned to curtail activity by the Palestinian authority in the city.

Interior Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said Israel would make clear to the Palestinians that diplomatic visits to the Orient House would be seen as a violation of the autonomy accord and would not be tolerated.

"What we are trying to do is enforce the law that bars Palestinian authority activity in Jerusalem," he added. "The minute there are official visits at this site, the minute there is official activity under the title of the Palestinian authority we will have no choice but to close it down."

Mr. Kahalani added that police jeeps and roadblocks would be used to prevent diplomatic visits to the Orient House. Israel Radio said Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu would withdraw invitations to foreign dignitaries, including foreign ministers, who would insist on visiting the Orient House while in Israel.

Israel Army Radio said Mr. Netanyahu had instructed police to physically block any visits.

But David Bar-Ilan, a top aide to Mr. Netanyahu, denied any decisions had been made about visits to the Orient House.

Mr. Bar-Ilan added that Mr. Netanyahu had formed a committee headed by Mr. Kahalani that would look into the legal aspects of Orient House activity.

The entire issue of Orient House visits is a subjective one. The previous government allowed dignitaries to call on Palestinian official Faisal Husseini at the headquarters, as long as the visit was defined as private.

Foreign Minister David Levy said Israel had no problem with the existence of the Orient House, rather activity linked to the Palestinian authority going on inside.

"We are not getting into here who can and who cannot, rather that the activity should not exist at all," Mr. Levy said. "We have no opposition to the building, only the activity inside."

At issue is the Israeli-Palestinian autonomy accord that bans the Palestinian National Authority from operating in Jerusalem, which both Israel and the Palestinians claim as their capital.

Israel vows never to relinquish its sovereignty over the city's eastern sector that it captured in the 1967 Mideast war and later annexed. The city's fate is to be decided in permanent status talks that are scheduled to wind up in May 1999.

Palestinian Minister of Higher Education Hanan Ashrawi denied that the Orient House acted as a branch of the Palestinian authority.

"Its role is to reinforce the peace process," Dr. Ashrawi said, accusing Israel of trying to create a "dangerous" irreversible situation in Jerusalem.

Dr. Ashrawi also criticised Mr. Kahalani for saying that new government did not intend to honour a letter Foreign Minister Shimon Peres wrote to Norway's late Foreign Minister Johan Jorgen Holst in 1994 guaranteeing that Israel would protect the status of PLO offices in Jerusalem.

Mr. Holst hosted the secret Israel-PLO talks that led to the Sept. 13 autonomy accord.

"If Israel wants to maintain its credibility, it should respect this letter. This letter was one of the reasons for our acceptance to postpone discussion of the status of Jerusalem," Dr. Ashrawi said.

Rifkind voices support for Jordan

LONDON (J.T.) — Britain's Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind, who is due in Jordan this week, said in a television interview that his country is "very happy to help with Jordan's economic development and also to respond to other requirements as they arise."

In an interview with the London-based Middle East Broadcasting Company, the British minister said that Britain has "a long history of extremely close relations with Jordan. We believe Jordan is a very stable and responsible country. I believe that King Hussein has been a tremendous force for stability and for constructive dialogue in the region and therefore we have exceptionally good bilateral relations. So there are good opportunities for a very constructive dialogue."

Asked on aid for Palestine, Mr. Rifkind said: "I believe that there are two important economic questions here. I think what is crucial to the Palestinians, and I remember Yasser Arafat saying this to me last year, is the reopening of the border. Whenever the border is closed between Gaza or the West Bank and Israel, that has a major damaging economic consequence, and that is even more important than international economic assistance." He said that the European Union is able to provide a lot of economic help to the region, but added "you cannot do that in a vacuum, it has to be part of a wider strategy. I believe there is a will to assist in that line." Asked to comment on the tension between Syria and Turkey, he said: "He believed that between Turkey and Syria there is no fundamental reason for any conflict, for any major deterioration in relationships. I think there is goodwill on both sides, and perhaps with some help from others progress can be made."

'No decision yet on raising bread prices' Government warned of reaction to lifting subsidies

AMMAN (Petra) — Supply Minister Munir Sobar on Sunday said his ministry has not yet made a decision on raising prices of bread, stressing that the ministry has been considering alternatives to ensure that subsidies go to citizens who need them.

Mr. Sobar said any decision to raise the prices of bread falls under the prerogative of the cabinet, noting that the subject is being discussed carefully in light of the studies undertaken and proposals made by the ministry.

On Sunday, Al Dustour Arabic daily carried a front page story, quoting Mr. Sobar as saying that the price of a kilo of bread will be raised to 250 fils from 80 fils as of July 15. The newspaper said Mr. Sobar stressed that the decision to raise prices of bread will in no way affect low-income citizens who will be compensated for the difference between the present price and the suggested one. The minister said that compensation will only be payable to those who deserve them through the issuing of special coupons.

Mr. Sobar told Petra that any decision in this regard will take into consideration "the interest of the poor and the disadvantaged who are the genuine beneficiaries of government subsidy. The minister said the well-to-do, foreign labour and tourists should not be benefitting from the treasury's subsidy to bread. He pointed out that 35 to 40 per cent of the bread produced in the country goes to those who are not eligible to benefit from the subsidised bread. The minister said

was quoted by at Al Dustour as saying that the actual cost of a kilo of bread is 250 fils given the current level of wheat prices, which jumped from \$ 175 in 1995 to \$ 280 per tonne. He said that the government pays JD 200 in the form of subsidy to each tonne of wheat. The minister expected the government's subsidy for bread until the end of this year to reach JD 106 million if its current level. The next step after raising bread prices will be to float prices and to

allow the private sector to import wheat. However such a decision needs intensive studies, he said.

Criticising the government's intentions to raise bread prices, a committee calling itself "the committee for defending the citizens bread" on Sunday called for a series of actions to protest the motion. In a statement circulated on Sunday, the committee called for organising protest marches all over the Kingdom after

(Continued on page 3)

Perry blasted over security lapse in wake of Saudi bombing

WASHINGTON (AFP) — A top Republican Senator suggested Sunday that Defence Secretary William Perry may have to resign amid questions over security at U.S. military bases in Saudi Arabia following the deadly terrorist bombing there.

Mr. Perry said he was "deeply offended" by the comment. Senator Arlen Specter's blast against Mr. Perry coincided with revelations that Saudis had twice rejected requests to move back a security fence at the King Abdul Aziz Air Base in eastern Saudi Arabia, where the fuel bomb exploded last Tuesday, killing 19 U.S. soldiers.

Mr. Specter, chairman of the important Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, criticised Mr. Perry's handling of security for U.S. troops and said it may be time for a new defence chief. "I think there's a real need to shake up the Department of Defence, and a real question as to whether William J. Perry is

the right man to be secretary of defence," Mr. Specter said in an interview on NBC-TV.

Mr. Perry, who spoke to both NBC-TV and ABC-TV live from the Mediterranean aboard the USS George Washington, acknowledged the Saudis had rejected the requests but said they had pledged full cooperation to institute new, tighter security measures.

The U.S. military said shortly after the blast that every "reasonable" security measure was in place at the base but has since announced it began overhauling security for its 20,000 troops in the Gulf.

While a Senate hearing on the bombing has been scheduled for July 9, Mr. Specter declared: "If the situation looks, after we have intelligence hearings, as it does today, then I will call for (Perry's) resignation. I will call for his replacement."

Mr. Specter said he was (Continued on page 3)

Iran warns Turkey

TEHRAN (R) — Iran will take all necessary measures to protect its security and will not let Turkey get away with a cross-border air raid, Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said in remarks published on Sunday. Turkey has denied any incursion into Iran took place.

"Velayati declared that Iran will take all necessary measures for protecting the safety and security of the country and will not let Turkey get away so easily with such actions," the English-language Iran News said.

It quoted Mr. Velayati as saying Iran had expressed its "serious concern" to Turkey on its violation of Iranian airspace on Wednesday, during which it said six Iranians were killed and 15 wounded in Turkish helicopter raids.

"We will pursue this matter to its logical conclusion. This is not something we can ignore, because it involves our national security and territorial integrity," Mr. Velayati said.

Syria seeks pressure on Israel, accuses it of human rights violations in Golan

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria on Sunday urged the world's rich countries to put pressure on new Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to accept returning Arab lands for peace.

Official media welcomed a statement by world powers at the Group of Seven (G-7) summit calling for a revival of Arab-Israeli peace negotiations as soon as possible and reaffirming that "land-for-peace" remained the basis for a settlement.

"This is a positive step... in the framework of expressing that peace in the Middle East is an international demand..." the ruling Baath Party newspaper Al Baath said.

"However, positive stands are not enough, because they cannot push forward the Middle East peace, not even an inch. And the reason is well-known because these countries still refuse to exert any kind of pressure on the side who rejects and hinders peace."

"Rich countries have enough political and eco-

nomic influence to turn their wishes into acts to implement U.N. resolutions. This is what is needed now if these countries really want to achieve peace in the Middle East," it added.

The official daily accused Mr. Netanyahu of blocking the peace process and asked the United States to stop backing Israel.

"This side (who blocks peace) is definitely the Zionist entity, who adopted with the election of the right-winger more obstinate and extreme positions which could blow the whole peace process," Al Baath said.

"And contrary to all expectations, Israel is still receiving more support from some members of the rich club, especially the United States, under false and unacceptable pretexts which harm the peace," it added.

U.S. President Bill Clinton and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said on Saturday at the G-7 summit in Lyon, France, that Arab states and the outside

world should give Mr. Netanyahu time to establish his policies.

Another official Syrian daily, Tishreen, said that if Mr. Netanyahu continued his policies, "he would isolate Israel and put it in a cage of accusations."

Meanwhile, Syria has told a U.N. committee that Israel is carrying out "inhuman practices" against its people in the Golan Heights, official sources said Sunday.

They said the Syrian foreign ministry on Saturday told a U.N. committee that Israel was "demolishing the Arab identity of the Golan ... and imposing the Israeli nationality on the Syrian citizens."

In a statement to the committee, Syria said: "Israel has deprived Syrians of their basic means of freedom, tortured them in Israeli prisons and confiscated their lands under various pretexts, controlled the marketing of their crops and cut the waters off from their lands."

The committee, appointed to check on human

rights violations in Israeli-occupied Arab lands, was told that the Jewish state had "increased its oppressive measures" since the start of Arab-Israeli peace talks in 1991 in Madrid.

Sporadic Syrian-Israeli peace talks have been deadlocked over an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan, future ties and security arrangements.

The three-member committee, visiting Syria as part of a regional tour to write their second 1996 report, presents two reports a year to the U.N. General Assembly.

Syria said there was "international anxiety at the continuation of the Israeli occupation of the Arab lands and the occupation authorities' inhuman practices in the occupied lands."

It urged the committee to include in its report the fact that Israel refuses to allow it to visit the occupied territories, and called on the international community to force Israel to let it visit and see the "practices of the Israeli authorities."

Iraq says death toll rocketing because of U.N. trade sanctions

By Hassan Hafidh
Reuters

BAGHDAD — Iraq said on Sunday more than 700,000 of its citizens had died as a result of medical shortages during nearly six years of U.N. trade sanctions.

The official newspaper Al Thawra said the most vulnerable were children under five-years-old as nearly 300,000 had died since the imposition of the sanctions on Iraq after its troops invaded Kuwait in 1990.

"The number of people who died because of the embargo for the period 1990 until May 1996 was 701,737," Al Thawra said.

quoting Iraq's health ministry.

"Concerning the mortality rate among children under five years it has reached for the same period 293,801 deaths as a result of the spread of various diseases and malnutrition."

According to figures published last year by the health ministry, the death rate among Iraqis before the imposition of the sanctions was only about 30,000 every year. Now more than 130,000 people die every year.

The paper said there were many infectious diseases which were not just caused by the lack of medical equipment and drugs

but also by general sanitary conditions.

U.N. sanctions do not prohibit medical imports but with oil exports blocked, the government lacks money to pay for them.

Health ministry sources say hospitals in Iraq are currently operating at 50 per cent of normal capacity because of the shortage of medical supplies. Many are forced to turn away all but the emergency cases.

They also say that there are desperate shortages of anaesthetics, antibiotics and X-ray film.

Iraq and the United Nations reached on May 20 an oil-for-food deal, allowing Baghdad to sell

\$2 billion worth of oil to raise money to buy food and medicine for its population of more than 20 million people.

Iraq submitted its food and medicine distribution plan to the United Nations on Friday. The world body must accept the plan before the deal can be implemented.

According to Baghdad's plan, \$210 million are allocated for medicine and medical supplies.

Iraqi officials say that before the Gulf crisis, Baghdad's health import bill was worth more than \$500 million a year.

Algerian army shells rebel Muslim militants in northeast, paper says

ALGIERS (R) — Helicopter-backed crack troops have launched an attack to wipe out Muslim guerrillas in a rugged region of northeastern Algeria, an Algerian newspaper said on Sunday.

In the cities, the interior ministry ordered landlords to submit photographs of their tenants in an effort to deprive the rebels from acquiring rented houses as bases for mounting guerrilla attacks.

La Tribune newspaper, quoting witnesses, said helicopters fired several

rockets at suspected guerrilla hideouts and bursts of automatic gunfire echoed near Tauriri Moussa, Taghara and Beni Yenni villages in Tizi-Ouzou province, some 90 kilometres from Algiers.

The "huge operation" carried out by armed forces and paramilitary gendarmerie troops began on Thursday night and a main road in the region was still closed to traffic on Saturday evening, it said.

La Tribune said Muslim guerrillas had murdered a number of civilians in the areas and set several cars

ablaze. The guerrillas had dumped the severed head of one of their victims near his home last Friday, it said.

There was no word on the operation from the army which has a policy of not commenting to foreign news organisations about internal security matters.

An interior ministry order published in newspapers on Sunday made it compulsory for real estate owners to submit details of any sale or rental of their property, including photographs of their tenants, to security forces via local authorities.

The ministry warned those ignoring the order that they would face unspecified legal action.

Security forces have on several occasions attacked luxury houses and apartments in wealthy suburbs of Algiers and killed rebels who had turned them into guerrilla hideouts.

An estimated 50,000 people have been killed in Algeria's violence pitting Muslim guerrillas against Government forces since early 1992 when the authorities cancelled a general election in which the Islamists had taken a commanding lead.



NETANYAHU MEETS WITH ISRAELI ARAB KNESSET MEMBERS: Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gestures while in conversation Sunday with three Israeli Arab Knesset members, Abdul Malik Dahamsheh (seated, centre), who heads the United Arab List party, Abdul Wahab Darawsheh (seated, right), and Tawfik Khatib, in the first meeting with Israeli Arab politicians since Mr. Netanyahu took office as prime minister. Mr. Dahamsheh is the lawyer who represents the jailed Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmad Yassin. The Arab parliamentarians called upon Mr. Netanyahu to redeploy the army from Hebron, according to radio reports, and Mr. Netanyahu replied that he was still studying the Hebron issue (Reuters photo)

Taliban rockets kill 3, wound 10

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Taliban rockets pounded Kabul on Sunday, killing three people who had just stepped out of a mosque after offering their afternoon prayers, eyewitnesses said.

At least 10 other people were injured, several of them near the Wazir Akbar Khan Hospital in central Kabul.

"The brother of one of our patients went out to bring some food when a rocket hit the parking lot," said Dr.

Abdul Matin. He is now in the hospital with shrapnel wounds.

This is the second time in less than one week that Taliban rockets have assailed the Afghan capital.

Last Wednesday a day-long rocket barrage from Taliban position to the south and west of the city left 62 people dead and more than 140 injured.

One rocket landed outside the Intercontinental Hotel in Kabul minutes after Afghanistan's new Prime

Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar arrived to take the oath of office.

After nearly four years of trying to take the city by force, Mr. Hekmatyar has agreed to share power with his arch-enemy President Burhanuddin Rabbani.

Since taking power Mr. Hekmatyar has made several peace overtures to the Taliban rebels, most of whom are former Islamic fighters.

Taliban leaders have so

far rejected the offers and have vowed to continue their battle for battle for Kabul until both Mr. Rabbani and Mr. Hekmatyar resign and turn over power to the Taliban.

"We will continue to rocket Kabul because neither Hekmatyar nor Rabbani are honest at the negotiation table," said Mullah Ghomi, a frontline Taliban commander. "The only solution is to fight."

Four Iraqis killed on Greek border

ALEXANDROUPOLEIS (AP) — Attempting to sneak into Greece from neighbouring Turkey, four of nine Iraqi immigrants were killed early Sunday while walking through a mine field in the dark. The army general staff said the Iraqis were killed near the village of Komofolia, on the frontier with Turkey, as they tried to cross into the country. The village is 50 kilometres northeast of this port town. The army's announcement said that one person was injured from the blast and four were captured as they tried to escape an army patrol in the "clearly marked" mine field enclosed by a "fence."

The army said 11 more Iraqis were captured early Saturday after wading across the shallow waters of the Evros River in northeastern Greece which is on the frontier with Turkey. It said warning shots were fired at the group as they attempted to flee. One person was wounded and taken to Alexandroupolis' general hospital for treatment of a flesh wound.

Beirut court orders death for bomber of Jesus statue

BEIRUT (R) — A Lebanese military judge sentenced to death in absentia a Palestinian militant leader for masterminding violent acts in Lebanon, including the bombing of a statue of Jesus Christ, judicial sources said on Sunday.

They said the court found Ahmad Abdul Karim Saadi guilty of ordering members of his small extremist group to bomb shops, liquor stores, and a statue of Jesus in the port of Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut between the summer of 1994 and February 1995.

The suspect Ahmad Abdul Karim Saadi, known by the name Abu Mohien, instigated members of Eshat Al Ansar group to carry out terrorist acts through bombing several religious and educational places and commercial

shops. His punishment is the death sentence, the verdict said.

Mr. Saadi is also being tried in absentia for masterminding the August 1995 killing in Beirut of Islamist cleric Sheikh Nizar Al Halabi, head of the pro-Syrian Al Ahsan faction.

He is believed to be hiding in South Lebanon's biggest Palestinian refugee camp, Ain Al Hilweh.

Guerrillas claim victory over SPLA

NAIROBI (R) — A Sudanese guerrilla group which has made peace with the Khartoum government said on Sunday its forces had captured two towns on Sudan's border with Ethiopia from the rebel Sudan Peoples Liberation Army (SPLA).

The South Sudan Independence Movement (SSIM) said in a statement in Nairobi that it had cap-

tured Akobo and Nyandi, routing the SPLA forces.

The SPLA commander had fled across the border into Ethiopia, but more than 100 of his men surrendered to the SSIM in Akobo on Friday, it said. Weapons including an anti-aircraft gun, mortars and rocket-launchers were seized from the SPLA.

"Most of the arms captured originated from

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Experts review
Mediterran

Experts review
Mediterran
A part of a public
programme in water conserva
signature, the University of Jordan
in cooperation with the French
in Amman. Sunday opened a
meeting entitled, "Water
in the Mediterranean Basin." The
seeks to review experiments in
the most appropriate uses of water
in developing countries, a national
team strategy in irrigation research,
the most appropriate uses of water

Participants will also review single
experiments of Mediterranean per
to the seminar, particularly those
from Cyprus, Spain and Italy as well
from the French government strongly
for the exchange of experiences

WHAT
"Red" and "Rouge" respectively
Centre, Jabel Weibden.

FUHEIS SEVEN
concert by Claudia Al Shmali at 9
musical performance at Al Ibbad
others.

EXHIBITION
Black and black paintings exhibition
entitled "Heureux Dimanche"
exhibition at Jordan De
L 6991412, until July 25.
street (plastic) art by Arab we
(Tel. 687596), until July 4.

welcome on board

Austrian Airlines G. S. A:
Shmeisani, Opposite Petra Travel
Commodore Hotel & Tourism
Tel: 694604, 693845, 660449 Tel: 700754, 613670

Arrival	Departure	Flight days	Destination
19:05	15:50	Sat, Mon, Wed	Amman - Vienna
15:00	10:10	Sat, Mon, Wed	Vienna - Amman

On Longhaul Routes from
Vienna to Almaty,
New York, Washington D. C.,
Chicago, Johannesburg,
Beijing and Tokyo

AUSTRIAN AIRLINES

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel. 773111-19
PROGRAMME TWO
15:00 Bonkers (cartoon)
15:30 Richie Rich
16:00 Play about
16:30 Gillette World Sport
17:00 News flash
17:02 Only
17:15 L'Ecole Des Fais
18:00 Magazine - Thalassa
19:00 News in French
19:15 Magazine - Cinq Sur Cinq
19:30 News Headlines
19:35 Doc. - Milner Fenwick
20:00 Paul McKenna Show
20:30 Matlok
21:10 100 Years of Capitalism in Korea
22:00 News in English
22:25 The Bold and the Beautiful
23:10 Mancuso

PRAYER TIMES
05:54 Fair
05:58 (Sunrise) Duha
12:29 Dhuhur
16:20 Asr
19:50 Maghreb
21:25 Isha

CHURCHES
St. Mary of Nazareth Church
Sweifeh, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church Tel.
632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation
Tel. 637440.
De la Saie Church Tel. 661757.
Terra Sancta Church Tel. 622666
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Armenian Catholic Church Tel.
771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.
775261.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Armanan International Church
Tel. 652526
Evangelical Lutheran Church
Tel. 824328.
German-speaking Evangelical
Congregation Tel. 845457
The Latter-Day Saints Tel.
654932.
Church of Nazarene Tel.
675691.
The Evangelical Local Church
in Amman Tel. 811295
English-speaking
Latin Catholics Parish Tel.
614190.

WEATHER
Bulletin supplied by the
Department of Meteorology.
Moderate summer weather
conditions will prevail with
temperatures around average
and winds northwesterly moderate.
In Aqaba, winds will be
northerly moderate to active
and seas calm.
Min/Max. temp.
Amman..... 18/31
Aqaba..... 23/37
Deserts..... 16/35
Jordan Valley..... 22/37

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 33, Aqaba 37 Humidity
readings: Amman 29 per
cent, Aqaba 36 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS
NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Khalil Al Tustiq757253
Dr. Nasser Ibrahim.....830432
Dr. Bahjat Bader.....832642
Dr. Wafiq Qaddumi.....893542
Ferdows pharmacy.....778336
Al Asema pharmacy.....637055
Nairoukh pharmacy.....623672
Al Salam pharmacy.....636730
Yacoub pharmacy.....644945
Shmeisani pharmacy.....637660
Nairoukh pharmacy.....847632
IRBID:
Dr. Mouna Abu Bakr.....776852
Al Quds pharmacy.....(—)
ZARQA:
Dr. Tareq Hijawi.....985445
Khalifeh pharmacy.....985417

Fire Brigade.....617101
Blood Bank.....775121
Highway Police.....843402
Traffic Police.....896390
Public Security Dept.....630321
Hotel Complaints.....605800
Price Complaints.....661176
Water & Sewerage Complaints.....897467
Armanan Municipality Complaints.....787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance).....121
Overseas Calls.....010230
Central Amman Telephone Repairs.....623101
Abdali Tel. Repairs.....661101
Jordan Television.....773111
Radio Jordan.....774111
Water Authority.....680100
J. Electricity Authority.....315615
Electric Power Co.....636381
RJ Flight Information.....08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITAL
AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre.....813813/32
Khalidi Maternity.....644281/6
Akileh Maternity.....642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity.....623662
Malhas, J. Amman.....636140
Palestine, Shmeisani.....607071
Shmeisani Hospital.....669131
University Hospital.....845845
Al-Muasher Hospital.....667227/9

FOR THE TRAVELLER
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should

always be verified.
Information on other flights are supplied on phone 08 (52700)
ARRIVALS
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights
07:30Sanaa (add) (RJ)
08:15Sanaa (RJ)
09:00Damascus (RJ)
10:10Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:30Beirut (RJ)
11:30Jeddah (RJ)
12:10Dubai (RJ)
15:20Tunis (add) (RJ)
19:45Cairo (RJ)
20:15Bangkok, Istanbul (RJ)
20:45New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
20:50Dubai (add) (RJ)
23:25Casablanca (RJ)
05:00Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
07:30Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
Other Flights
11:45Khartoum (SD)
13:40 Muscat, Abu Dhabi (GF)
14:30Kiev (6U)
15:00Vienna (OS)
18:30Athens, Istanbul (Q7)
20:35Cairo (MS)
20:55Paris, Damascus (AF)
22:00Tel Aviv (LY)
23:30Athens, Beirut (OA)
01:20Amsterdam (KL)
05:40London (BA)
Royal Wings (RW) Flights

09:50Aqaba (RW)
DEPARTURES
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights
05:00Dubai (add) (RJ)
06:30Jeddah (RJ)
06:35Beirut (RJ)
06:00Tunis (add) (RJ)
11:00Casablanca (RJ)
11:20Amsterdam, Detroit (add) (RJ)
12:15Amsterdam, Doha (RJ)
12:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:00 Amsterdam, Montreal, Toronto (add) (RJ)
13:00Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ)
13:25London (RJ)
13:25Frankfurt (RJ)
13:40Dubai (add) (RJ)
15:45Cairo (RJ)
21:45Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
21:45Damascus (RJ)
22:15Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
22:30 Al 'Ain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
01:00Sanaa (RJ)
Other Flights
06:00Istanbul (TK)
08:45Beirut (ME)
09:15Beirut, London (BA)
13:00Khartoum (SD)
14:30Bahrain (GF)
15:30Kiev (6U)
15:50Vienna (OS)
19:30Doha (Q7)
21:25Cairo (MS)
23:00Tel Aviv (LY)
23:55Damascus, Paris (AF)
02:30Amsterdam (KL)
04:00Beirut, Athens (OA)
Royal Wings (RW) Flights

20:30Aqaba (RW)
HJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN
Dep. Amman8:00 a.m. every Monday
Arr. Damascus5:00 p.m. every Monday
Dep. Damascus7:30 a.m. every Sunday
Arr. Amman5:00 p.m. every Sunday
MARKET PRICES
Upper/lower price in fils per kg.
Apricot800/600
Apple700/500
Banana600/600
Banana (Mukammar)520/600
Banana (imported)850/600
Cabbage130/80
Carrot120/80
Cauliflower380/250
Cucumber (large)100/70
Cucumber (small)170/100
Eggplant200/130
Garlic650/400
Lemon800/500
Marrow (large)150/100
Marrow (small)230/150
Mulukhyah130/80
Onion (dry)130/80
Okra850/600
Orange400/300
Pea460/300
Peas580/400
Pepper (hot)340/240
Pepper (sweet)400/300
Potato290/180
String Bean480/350
Sweet melon140/80
Tomato130/80
Water melon140/80

Queen hosts reception for USAID, joins tree-planting ceremony to mark Canadian National Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Sunday hosted a reception at Nour Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) to bid farewell to outgoing staff members of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and to welcome their successors, an NHF statement said.

Queen Noor expressed her appreciation on behalf of Jordan for the efforts of USAID Mission Director William (Tom) Oliver and his staff, who, she said, steadfastly continued work during the Gulf crisis and war thereby averting the suspension and closure of USAID's diverse programmes in the country.

The latter's most recent projects include developing and authorising a \$42 million Water Quality Improvement and Conservation

Project that promotes effective and efficient use of Jordan's scarce water resources, a \$29 million Sector Policy Reform Programme that complements and expands Jordan's National Reform Programme, an \$11 million Comprehensive Post Partum Project that improves maternal and child health with an emphasis on birth spacing as well as a \$16 million Cultural and Environmental Resources Management Project that supports the development of selected cultural and environmental sites such as the Amman Citadel and the Madaba Archaeological Park, the statement said.

In addition, it said, USAID's \$12 million Private Enterprise Technical Resources Assistance Project provides development

grants to non-governmental organisations like the NHF, the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development, the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN), the Royal Society for Fine Arts, and the Young Muslim Women's Association (YMWA).

The statement said that later Queen Noor joined Canadian citizens in a tree-planting ceremony at the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature's (RSCN) Queen Noor Forest in Yajouz.

The Queen, who is the patron of the RSCN, was received by Canadian Ambassador to Jordan Michel de Salaberry and RSCN President Anis Muasher, the NHF statement said.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Sunday launches the United Nations Childrens Fund (UNICEF) annual report "Progress of Nations" at a special ceremony held at the Marriott Hotel. Attending the ceremony were Minister of Education Munther Al Masri (to the Queen's left), Dorrit Alopaeus Stahl, UNICEF Representative in Jordan (to the Queen's right) and Mary Roodkowsky, senior programme officer at UNICEF Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa (second from left) (Petra photo)

Experts review water use in Mediterranean basin

AMMAN (J.T.) — As part of a public awareness programme on water conservation in agriculture, the University of Jordan (UJ), in cooperation with the French embassy in Amman, Sunday opened a three-day meeting entitled, "Water Research in the Mediterranean Basin." The meeting seeks to review experiments in water use.

The main topics under discussion include research requirements in water use for irrigation in developing countries, a national Jordanian strategy in irrigation research, and the most appropriate uses of water resources.

The participants will also review single-country experiments of Mediterranean participants to the seminar, particularly those of France, Cyprus, Spain and Italy as well as Jordan.

The French government strongly believes that the exchange of experiments

is of a great value for all the participating countries," the French delegate at the meeting told Jordan Television Sunday.

Saline water used for irrigation, and the application of research in irrigation and case studies covering experiments conducted in Jordan are among the topics for discussion by the Arab and foreign delegates.

The French delegate said: "Our objective is to investigate the different techniques and methods by which we can conserve water used for irrigation."

In the course of the research programme of rational water use in irrigation, applications were carried out in Madaba and Baqaa as well as in the Jordan Valley and the highlands.

Initiated by the agricultural mission at the French embassy and the Water and Environmental Research and Studies Centre at the University in Jordan, the programme began in January of 1995.

Public works ministry re-examines criteria for awarding tenders

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Public Works and Housing said it is re-examining procedures and criteria involved in awarding construction tenders.

At a meeting Sunday with a higher committee charged with promoting the contracting sector in Jordan, Minister of Public Works Abdul Hadi Majali said that the committee has submitted a set of recommendations which would help in making better assessments of the financial, managerial and technical capabilities of contractors bidding on tenders for government construction projects.

According to Mr. Majali, the implementation of these recommendations would work to prevent failures by the contractors in completing their work on schedule and would guarantee that contractors abide by the country's approved building specifications.

He said that the Ministry of Public Works is eager to provide assistance to the contracting sector and to promote its performance. Mr. Majali added that the ministry seeks closer cooperation between the public and private sectors to overcome technical, financial

and administrative problems that have emerged in this sector since the second half of the 1970s.

The committee, which was formed by a symposium held under the patronage of HRH Crown Prince Hassan in May to discuss development of the contracting sector in Jordan, presented its report containing details of the contracting situation and recommendations on contracts for construction work, arbitration in disputes, amendment of related laws and regulations, incentives to companies specialising in the implementation of state-funded projects and the establishment of an institute to train engineers and contractors.

The recommendations also called for the amendment of regulations governing the work of consultancy services, engineering companies and the Jordanian Contractors Association (JCA).

JCA President Wael Toukan said that the committee endorsed a motion calling on the Tenders Department not to award tenders based simply on the lowest bid, but to consider an average bidding cost. The committee, he said,



Minister of Public Works and Housing Abdul Hadi Majali Sunday meets with members of a committee charged with promoting the contracting sector (Petra photo)

further demanded that the department offer the local contractors incentives such as exemption of income tax in the initial years of a project on basis equal to incentives offered to foreign contractors and investors.

Saying that the committee has worked on this

study for more than a year, Mr. Toukan said that the minister has endorsed all the committee's recommendations and promised to have them adopted by the cabinet in order to ensure their approval.

According to the JCA, the contracting sector in Jordan accounts for 7.4 per

cent of Gross Domestic Product and runs 1,300 institutions and 1,126 consultancy and contracting offices, and 110 factories that produce primary materials used in construction, and it employs nearly 10 per cent of the overall Jordanian workforce.

Arab institute plans major Jordanian cultural event in Paris

By Francesca Ciriaci
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Paris will next year host a series of important cultural events bringing the best of Jordan's contemporary art, handicrafts and history to the French and European public, director of the Paris-based Institut du Monde Arabe (IMA) Camille Cabana told a press conference late on Saturday.

Earlier on Saturday, Mr. Cabana also discussed with His Majesty King Hussein the cultural initiatives on Jordan to be held in the French capital, conveyed a personal message from French President Jacques Chirac to the King, and reviewed current regional issues.

Mr. Cabana said the cultural initiatives to take place in Paris, organised and financed by the IMA and to be held under presidential patronage, are a further proof of the friend-

ly and history of relations between France and Jordan.

In his meeting with the King, Mr. Cabana said he had the confirmation that King Hussein and the French president "share identical points of views regarding regional issues."

Talks on newly elected Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the possibility of changes in Israel's attitude towards the peace process confirmed that both President Chirac and King Hussein "do not think that the new (Israeli) government should be judged before it is given time to make any decision and take any action."

Mr. Cabana said President Chirac, present in Cairo at last week's Arab summit, personally expressed to the King his appreciation for "Jordan's efforts to mediate different Arab positions and achieve a common final declaration."

On the other hand, King Hussein praised France for its contribution to the Florence Declaration, which, reiterating the European support to the Palestinian cause and commitment to enhance the peace process, closed last week's European Council meeting in Italy.

Regarding the cultural initiatives on Jordan which are going to be held in Paris next year, Mr. Cabana defined them as "unique and unprecedented."

An art exhibition by Jordanian artists, scheduled to open in March 1997, will be held in the prestigious and magnificent premises of the Hotel de Ville, in the very heart of the French capital, and Mr. Cabana said it will be inaugurated by Her Majesty Queen Noor and Mme. Chirac.

Sources at the French embassy in Amman said the list of the Jordanian artists participating in the exhibition is not yet avail-

able. An exhibition featuring Jordanian traditional handicrafts will be held at the famous Grandes Magazines Le Printemps, while an archaeological exhibition presenting the most precious and renowned of Jordan's artistic treasures and the most advanced techniques and the latest equipment employed in the works of excavation, restoration and conservation of the sites, will be held from June to September 1997 at the IMA.

The exhibition will offer the French public a taste of Jordan's history, from the Palaeolithic and Neolithic periods, to the Hellenistic and Roman times, from the great Nabatean civilisation to the Byzantine era and the Umayyad dynasty.

"This exhibition will represent a unique event," Mr. Cabana noted, "because, for the first time, objects thousands of years old will be displayed alongside the latest high-tech equip-

ment."

He also said that, after Paris, the exhibition will move to Rome. To solve practical and logistic problems related to the exhibition, such as the number of objects to be displayed and the means and procedures for their transportation, Mr. Cabana, also on Saturday, held talks with government officials.

"The IMA, an institution without comparison in the Western world, wants to be a space where the Arab World can present its cultural and historic heritage and the Western public can satisfy its curiosity about Islamic and Arab civilisation," Mr. Cabana told the press conference.

"Better knowledge constitutes the basis for better understanding between peoples, and bridging the gap between European and Arab culture, we feel we contribute to achieving peace," he concluded.

Man gets death penalty in child murder case

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Criminal Court Sunday sentenced a 22-year-old man to death after being found guilty of molesting and killing a child in Ghor Safi last year.

Mohammad Na'eel Darwish was found guilty by the court tribunal, presided over by Judge Ismael Hmouz and including Judges Mifleh Moubaidin and Marwan Dabbas, of molesting then strangling nine-year-old Hussein Ahmad Heishan at a farm in Ghor Safi on Sept. 30, 1995.

According to the prosecution, on Sept. 27, Darwish, who was attending a wedding party, took the boy from the party to a deserted area and molested him.

Three days later, Darwish met the boy on the street and lured him to a farm and tried to molest him again; the court documents said.

"Hassan started struggling and screaming and threatened Darwish that he was going to tell his family what Darwish was doing to him," the court documents said quoting

Darwish's confession in front of the prosecutor.

Hassan tried to escape but Darwish went after him and strangled the boy with a piece of cloth, then buried him.

Darwish told the authorities that he killed Hassan to conceal his crime because the boy threatened to tell his family of both incidents.

The boy's body was discovered three days later by the farm owner, Sae'd Abdul Ghani, after the family of the victim had filed a missing persons report.

The criminal court prosecutor, Ali Abu Hajileh, had sought the maximum penalty, which in this case is death by hanging.

Darwish's attorney asked the court to be lenient, saying that his "client was still young and deserves a second chance."

Sunday's death sentence is the 13th death penalty to be announced since the beginning of the year.

The verdict on Darwish will automatically be reviewed by the Court of Cassation within 30 days.

'No decision yet on raising bread prices'

(Continued from page 1)

the Friday prayer on July 5, and for a two-hour sit-in on Saturday July 6. The statement also called for an open strike and demonstrations as of Monday July 8.

The statement said that the raising of bread prices by 300 per cent follows the previous rises in prices of water and electricity, which have affected almost all consumer items because water and electricity are essential for production. The statement described the justifications for the bread prices rise as weak. The committee said that 90 per cent of the people in Jordan live on bread while it is secondary for the remaining 10 per cent of the population.

In a similar move, the National Society for Consumer Protection (NSCP)

sent a letter to Prime Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabarti requesting him to keep the prices of bread as they are and to look for alternative and indirect methods for collecting the amount of subsidy from the well-to-do.

"Out of our love for this country and our keen interest in safeguarding its security and stability, we implore you to take a deliberate decision and to maintain prices of bread as they are," the NSCP's letter said. The Society said the decision to raise the bread prices pose great dangers, and said create social imbalances, "in addition to aggravating the suffering of the tens of thousands of the poor and the jobless in this country." The Society

also called for stricter measures on the foreign labour force, saying that figures suggest that there are between 250,000 and 400,000 non-Jordanian workers, while the work permits issued do not exceed 100,000. This implies that any measure to control the foreign labour will definitely result in a saving of millions of dinars. "The economic conditions in Jordan, which underwent great imbalances over the past six years, have been aggravated by the imposition of taxes and increasing prices, which in turn have placed an additional burden on citizens, who could no longer tolerate any increases," the society said in its letter to the prime minister.

Perry blasted over security lapse in wake of Saudi bombing

(Continued from page 1)

troubled that better security was not provided to the troops, and told the network he was particularly incensed that Mr. Perry was not able to say whether the Saudi government was stable.

"If he's not, who is?" Mr. Specter said angrily. Mr. Perry was also asked why the United States failed to get approval from the Saudis to extend the security buffer from 30 metres to 120 metres.

The secretary said he was trying to "focus my attention on the future" and noted the Saudi government had now agreed to the additional security measures. But Mr. Perry acknowledged on NBC that "obviously in retrospect it would have been desirable to do" it earlier.

Responding to the suggestion he resign over the incident, Mr. Perry told ABC: "There is nothing that is more important to me than the safety and welfare of our troops ... If I'm deficient

in that, then his call was correct. I challenge his assumption." He also said he was "deeply offended" by Mr. Specter's remarks. A White House spokesman, meanwhile, said the administration "is working very hard to satisfy the concerns regarding the questions that Specter raised."

Speaking under the condition his name not be used, the official said the U.S. authorities "are taking measures to prevent a recurrence."

WHAT IS GOING ON

Films

"Black" and "Rouge" respectively at 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre, Jabel Weibdeh.

FUHEIS SEVENTH FESTIVAL

Concert by Claudi Al Simali at 9:00 p.m.

Classical performance at Al Ibbadi Theatre at 8:30 p.m.

Exhibition on Arab cities, Jordanian figures, Arab press, hand-made products, and others.

EXHIBITIONS

White and black paintings exhibition of works conducted in half a century (1913-1966) entitled "Heureux Dimanche" at the French Cultural Centre, until July 20.

Ceramics exhibition at Jordan Design and Trade Centre, off Wadi Sagra Street (Tel. 6991412), until July 25.

Abstract (plastic) art by Arab woman artists at Baladna Art Gallery, Gardens Street (Tel. 687536), until July 4.

Voters head to polls in Kashmir

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Voting in Pakistan's troubled Kashmir province began Sunday in a controversial election marred by campaign violence and the threat of boycotts.

More than 1.6 million Kashmiris were registered to vote in what Pakistan says will be a trouble-free provincial assembly election in a region prone to bloodshed and dispute.

"I want to assure the nation and the world that we want to hold transparent, free and fair elections in Kashmir," Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said during a televised address to the country.

But feuding political parties have already turned pre-election campaigning violent and a pro-independence group has vowed to disrupt the polling.

A week ago, political activists from the provincial opposition People's Party shot and killed seven rivals from the ruling Muslim Conference. Another 13 people were wounded.

Police said People's Party workers opened fire on the Muslim conference election headquarters in the Kashmir district of Mirpur, about 110 kilometres southeast of Islamabad, the capital.

The Jammu-Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), meanwhile, has called the

provincial elections a sham. "The JKLF is not only boycotting these elections, but has also started a vigorous campaign against them," Liberation Front Chairman Amanullah Khan said.

Mr. Khan's separatist faction hopes one day to reunite Indian and Pakistani Kashmir and establish an independent homeland.

Long a flashpoint for conflict between India and Pakistan, Kashmir was divided between the two countries shortly after British rule over the Asian subcontinent ended in 1947.

New Delhi and Islamabad have fought two of three wars over the Kashmir territorial dispute.

Rebels from the JKLF, along with various other factions, have led an armed uprising against New Delhi's rule over Indian Kashmir.

Pakistan hopes to avoid similar voting difficulties to those suffered in Indian-administered Kashmir during federal elections in May. Many observers said voters in strife-torn Indian Kashmir were herded against their will to polling stations.

Pakistan used the Indian elections as a platform against New Delhi's control over two-thirds of Kashmir, but is wary of potential voting problems of its own.



KASHMIRI WOMEN CHANTING ANTI GOVERNMENT SLOGANS: Kashmiri women chant slogans at a rally organised by the ruling All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference of Azad (free) Jammu and Kashmir in Karachi Sunday. The party has announced to boycott today's election, to protest against what they said interference by the government in the elections (Reuters photo)

More than 1,300 Burundi Hutus flee to Rwanda

BUTUMBURA (Agencies) — More than 1,300 Burundian Hutus from the troubled northwestern border region of Cibitoke have fled into Rwanda following reports of fresh violence, U.N. refugee agency officials said Sunday.

The refugees crossed to Rwanda's southwestern border region of Cyangugu on Thursday and Friday, they said. "Definitely something is happening in Cibitoke," one said.

Cibitoke, bordering Zaire and Rwanda, is a haven for rebels of Burundi's Hutu majority who are waging an increasingly effective guerrilla war against the almost exclusively Tutsi army.

The latest refugee exodus coincided with an army report of killings in Cibitoke province, the most dangerous and lawless area in Burundi.

A senior defence ministry official told Reuters on Saturday that government troops killed 31 Hutu insurgents in a gunbattle in Cibitoke on Thursday after rebels ambushed a military-escorted convoy and killed two soldiers and a civilian.

Lack of security has made Cibitoke a no-go area for Western aid workers. The International Committee of the Red Cross, the last aid agency working in Cibitoke, pulled out of Burundi early in June after three of its Swiss staff were killed in an ambush.

Meanwhile, at least 28 Tutsis were massacred by suspected Hutu rebels in Rwanda's western province in what government officials described Saturday as continuing genocide in the troubled country.

"They targeted Tutsis in that area," said military spokesman Maj. Emmanuel Ndirakobuca. "It looks like the genocide is continuing by the same people who were responsible in 1994."

More than 500,000 people were killed in state-sponsored genocide in 1994, most of them ethnic Tutsis and politically moderate Hutus. The killings stopped when Tutsi-led rebels

defeated the former government forces, who fled to Zaire and other neighbouring countries with 20 per cent of Rwanda's population.

Rwandan and U.N. human rights officials said the 28 people were killed in the Gicizi area bordering Zaire in two attacks on villages shortly after midnight Friday.

All the victims were Tutsis and 19 were survivors of the 1994 genocide.

After the attack, Ndirakobuca said, the killers fled into the nearby Gishwati national forest, 20 kilometres (12.5 miles) from the border with Zaire.

U.N. human rights investigators quoted witnesses of the killing as saying the attack was carried out by between 10 and 30 armed Interahamwe, a name used for Hutu gangs responsible for much of the 1994 killing.

"The unidentified, armed men looted houses and stole goods," said Nathalie Pelland, spokeswoman for the U.N. human rights field operation in Rwanda. She said that U.N. team was investigating the report.

Human rights officials have expressed concern that genocide survivors are being targeted by supporters of the former Hutu-supremacist government.

More than 107 survivors have been killed since January, 45 of them in June alone. Most of the attacks have occurred in western Rwanda, along the border with Zaire where more than one million Hutus live in refugee camps.

Rwanda and Burundi share the same ethnic mix with 85 per cent Hutus; 14 per cent Tutsis and 1 per cent Twa, but the two countries have different languages, customs and histories.

More than 150,000 people have died in Burundi since ethnic fighting flared in October 1993 after Tutsi paratroopers assassinated the first democratically-elected Hutu president.

Man with toy gun gives Chilean leader a fright

SANTIAGO, Chile (R) — Chilean police arrested a man loitering near President Eduardo Frei on Saturday and found what they thought was a pistol but turned out to be a toy gun.

The man, wearing what looked like a blond wig and a jogging suit, began acting strangely near Mr. Frei as the 54-year-old president inspected a new highway overpass in the city of Vina Del Mar, about 60 kilometres west of the capital. Police seized the man and discovered he was carrying what appeared to be a pistol, but which was found to be a toy. Mr. Frei continued with the inspection uninterrupted. Police identified the man as Pablo Rivadeneira and said he seemed to be disturbed. They had no information on whether he would be charged.

The Who's Roger Daltrey injured in preparation for big concert

LONDON (AP) — The Who singer Roger Daltrey is nursing a bruised left eye after fellow rocker Gary Glitter accidentally struck him with a microphone stand during rehearsals for a charity rock concert. Daltrey performed at Saturday's concert in London's Hyde Park for Prince Charles' charity, the prince's trust, wearing an eye patch in the patriotic red, white and blue of Britain's national flag. There was no immediate confirmation of news reports that he had broken a bone under the eye.

Glitter said the accident happened Friday while the two were rehearsing the Who's rock opera "Quadrophenia" in the park. He tripped, knocking the microphone stand into Daltrey. Rain may have made the stage slippery.

Glitter said he had taken his eye out and done something terrible. It was a terrible experience. Glitter told reporters Saturday. "I feel terrible because not only did I hurt him, but he didn't get a chance to rehearse." The concert, which also featured Bob Dylan and Eric Clapton, raised £500,000 (\$750,000) for the prince's trust.

Glitter said he was sorry about the accident. He said he was not drunk and was not on drugs. He said he was not a professional and was not a performer. He said he was a fan of the Who and was excited to be part of the concert.

Kidnappings rise 67 % in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Kidnappings rose 67 per cent in the first six months of this year to 80 cases as criminal groups found them to be a lucrative source of income, a report said Sunday. The Philippine Star said 113 people were kidnapped in the 80 cases. Fourteen were killed by their captors and 22 remain unaccounted for, it added. Police say kidnapping for ransom has become a flourishing business because many victims, particularly those from wealthy Filipino-Chinese business families, are believed to scare easily and pay quickly. But even middle-class Filipinos now fear the ineffective police response has encouraged new gangs that choose targets randomly among the general public. Accurate figures on the number of kidnappings in the country are difficult to obtain. Many families refuse to report kidnappings to police because of the widespread belief that current or former police officers are members of kidnap gangs. The Star based its figures on reports from police and the movement for the restoration of peace and order, a group formed by the Filipino-Chinese community to lobby for stronger action against crime. The newspaper said 43 people were freed after paying ransoms, 22 were rescued, and the rest escaped or were abandoned. During the same period last year, 77 people were kidnapped in 48 cases. Significantly, 44 of this year's kidnappings, or more than half the cases, were in Metro Manila. In this year's instances, law enforcers caught and charged 91 suspects and killed 11 in clashes. Among this year's 274 suspects, 19 were listed as police officers. Last year, six of 95 suspects were policemen, the Star said.

Shamans, therapists meet for first congress

VIENNA (R) — Shamans from Africa and Asia joined therapists from the West in the hometown of Sigmund Freud for the first world psychotherapy congress on Sunday.

About 4,000 participants from over 73 countries, representing ancient and modern schools of psychotherapy, were meeting in Vienna to swap ideas on everything from individual patient care to healing the wounds of the former Yugoslavia.

"Vienna is the home of psychotherapy," said Alfred Fritz, president of the World Council of Psychotherapy who organised the conference called "The World of Psychotherapy."

"And psychotherapy is not a by-product of neurotic development but a cultural achievement we can be proud of," Dr. Fritz told Reuters.

Freud, an Austrian from Vienna, pioneered the discipline of psychotherapy in the West at the turn of the century.

At this week's congress, which lasts until July 4, delegates from about 50 schools of psychotherapy have 1,638 lectures to choose from.

"This is the first world conference that encompasses the entire field of psychotherapy," said Dr. Fritz, who stayed with his team for four years to organise the event.

Another first is the presence of non-Western therapists. Dr. Fritz said the congress made special efforts to invite shamans from Siberia, Africa and Asia.

"They have all had several years of training, and in their cultural contexts they are responsible for the spiritual well-being of their clients," he said.

Dr. Fritz said diversity was vital to the meeting.

"It is not important how one group thinks things should be," he said. "We wanted to give people a chance to present their schools and not pre-select from the very beginning." The conference strives to improve understanding and treatment of emotional problems, Dr. Fritz said. Topics include training, ethical standards, work environments, methods and the use of psychotherapy in a larger political context.

Supporters attack Australia's suicide law

DARWIN (R) — The world's first law allowing assisted suicides takes effect in Australia's outback on Monday, with supporters saying fresh regulations make the law useless and critics confident of winning their legal challenge.

"They (the Northern Territory government) have made an unworkable piece of legislation," the voluntary Euthanasia Network's Dr. Philip Nitschke told Reuters on Sunday.

Dr. Nitschke and other Euthanasia supporters say the law is rendered useless

by new regulations accompanying it which require specialists supporting euthanasia applications to be territory residents.

With a population of less than 200,000, the territory only has a handful of medical specialists, and no cancer specialist.

"This made it harder than it was, and, heavens, it was hard enough as it was," Dr. Nitschke said.

The controversial law, which has divided Australians, allows doctors to help terminally ill patients kill themselves using pills or injections to

first send the person to sleep and then kill them with a muscle relaxant.

The territory government on Sunday denied the new rules would make the rights of the terminally ill act unworkable.

"In fact, the government has ensured that while maintaining the highest standards, the act is operational from July 1," territory health minister Denis Burke told the local Sunday Territorian newspaper.

Australia's political leaders, including conservative Prime Minister John

Howard, have criticised the euthanasia law and urged the territory government to reverse its decision.

Deputy Prime Minister Tim Fischer said last week the law would promote a "culture of death" and turn doctors into killers.

Although the territory law takes effect on Monday, the nine-day "cooling off" period which provides time for further checks and for patients to reconsider means, the first assisted death could not take place for more than a week.

Vietnam's top communist official promises reform

HANOI (R) — Vietnam's top communist official said on Sunday he was tired but ready to go on serving the people and party with a drive for faster, but still cautious, reform.

Looking relaxed, his distinctive grey mane swept back and joking with reporters during a break in the ruling party's policy-defining congress, 79-year-old Do Muoi said he would remain in office until the people let him rest.

"This is what the people require," he said. "They make me work. How do I look to you? I am 80 years old. I am past the working age, but I think I am still young."

Despite the rumours of a leadership revamp that preceded the landmark conclave, the eighth Communist Party congress, top cadres have decided to keep Mr. Muoi on as party secretary general, a post he has held since 1991.

The two other members of the leadership triumvirate, President Le Duc Anh and Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, both in their 70s, will also stay on.

Mr. Muoi, a no-nonsense revolutionary but also a charismatic figure, is seen by analysts as an important bridge between those in the party who are pushing for faster and more comprehensive reforms and the old guard which wants to apply the brakes.

Hanoi launched a drive to breathe life into its failing economy 10 years ago, switching from a Soviet-style centrally planned system and adopting market principles.

That process began to bear fruit in the early 1990s and since 1992 the economy has grown by more than eight per cent a year.

Mr. Muoi denied that the party was divided, telling the crowd of reporters around him they had been fed "misinformation."

"We have never had any divisions," he said. "(Since) our August revolution in 1945, our main motto is 'unity, unity, great unity' and we have had great success with that motto."

He said he wanted to see further reform to raise living standards, but said it should not be implemented too quickly.

"I myself want to accelerate that," he said. "But at the same time I want to see efficiency and stability. If development is too fast we make mistakes."

Iceland's new president seeks world peace

REYKJAVIK (R) — Left-wing former Finance Minister Olafur Ragnar Grimsson claimed victory in Iceland's presidential election on Sunday and said one of his main aims would be to work for world peace.

Mr. Grimsson, 53, said his task as Iceland's fifth president since independence in 1944 was to unite the nation and he would resign from his political party, the leftist people's alliance, within the next week.

"From this morning on it will be my job and my wife's to unite the whole country," he told Iceland television.

Mr. Grimsson had won 41.8 per cent of the vote after about 75 per cent of Saturday's ballot was counted.

The right-wing's preferred candidate, high court judge Petur Hafstein, was in second

place with 28.8 per cent. Former women's party Member of Parliament Gudrun Agnarsson had 26.8 per cent and peace campaigner Asthor Magnusson had 2.6 per cent.

Some 195,000 of Iceland's 265,000 inhabitants were eligible to vote.

The new president is due to be sworn in on August 1. Iceland's presidency involves an apolitical, mainly ceremonial role and is for a four-year term.

Mr. Grimsson spent 10 years as a member of parliament, three years as finance minister and eight years as chairman of the People's Alliance. He retired from parliament earlier this year to stand in the presidential election.

The current president, Vigdis Finnbogadóttir, has won respect and popularity in her 16 years in

office by eschewing party politics. Ms. Finnbogadóttir, the world's first popularly elected female head of state, is retiring.

Mr. Grimsson said he wanted to promote Iceland as a spokesman for peace, human rights and disarmament as the remote, North Atlantic island had never been at war or experienced civil unrest.

"There is a strong sense in the nation irrespective of political party that Iceland should represent these ideals in the world," Mr. Grimsson told a news conference.

"We are a small, democratic, non-violent society and we don't threaten anybody... so we will be available as a negotiator, as a place, or as officials for those who desire to have Icelandic input or partnership."

Mr. Grimsson said he

wanted Iceland to expand its ties beyond Europe, citing Asia and Latin America as growth areas.

"I think Iceland has tremendous opportunities in trade and economic relations in Asia and Latin America," he said.

Mr. Grimsson said his political past would not interfere with his new position.

"It was a clear decision when I decided to become a (presidential) candidate to move out of the party political arena," he said.

Mr. Grimsson said he foresaw no problems in his future dealings with Iceland's prime minister, the moderate conservative David Oddsson, a former political opponent.

"I think we could have a very good professional and also quite pleasant working relationship," he said.

North Korea denies American POWs still alive

TOKYO (R) — North Korea has denied American prisoners captured during the Korean war are still alive, and has threatened to call off the joint excavation of remains of U.S. soldiers if Washington insisted on such claims.

"We have clearly notified the U.S. side through various channels that there is no American prisoner of war alive in the DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)," North Korea's official

media, Korean Central News Agency (KCNA), said late on Saturday.

"If the U.S. side goes against confidence-building with the DPRK, counting on the fake story of some forces who seek a sinister political purpose, the joint excavation of U.S. remains will be exposed to danger," said KCNA, monitored in Tokyo.

A recent internal report by U.S. Defence Department analyst Insung Lee, a Korean-

American, suggested that 10 to 15 U.S. prisoners of war (POWs) might still be alive in North Korea in addition to four known American defectors.

But Alan Liotta, deputy director of the Pentagon's office on POWs and troops missing in action, said there was no proof to support the report.

A Defence Department team will leave for North Korea next month for the first U.S.-North Korean joint recovery operation to search for remains at the

sites where two American warplanes were shot down in the conflict.

Republican representative Robert Dornan of California said he believed some Americans could have survived more than 40 years in North Korean captivity after meeting a South Korean officer. The officer was captured in 1951 and escaped in 1994 after working as a slave labourer in coal mines.

Busine

Cyprus. offshore banking haven. seeks new image

AFRICA (AP) — The new offshore banking haven in Cyprus is seeking to shake up its act without losing its business as a tax haven.

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Boris Yeltsin misses last chance before crucial poll

MOSCOW (AP) — President Boris Yeltsin stayed away from a festival Sunday, missing one of his last chances to campaign before a crucial vote and adding to concerns about his health.

Presidential aides had said Yeltsin might attend the Moscow festival if he regained his voice. Monday will be his last day to campaign before Wednesday's runoff against Communist Gennady Zyuganov.

Mr. Yeltsin's aides have done their best to bury the health issue, reassuring Russians that their 65-year-old president simply lost his voice from his frenetic campaigning and will be fighting fit by election day.

Mr. Yeltsin left his country home outside Moscow on Saturday for a short working day in the Kremlin, where TV newscasts showed a smiling but slightly weary-looking president talking with aide Viktor Ilyushin.

The president reportedly planned to meet Sunday with Grigory Yavlinsky, a reformer who finished fourth in the June 16 elec-

tion. There was speculation that Mr. Yeltsin may try to reach some sort of deal with Yavlinsky in hopes of winning over his voters.

Mr. Yeltsin needs the support of Russians who voted for other democratic or centrist candidates in the first round if he is to defeat Mr. Zyuganov. He brought the third-place finisher, Alexander Lebed, on board by naming him national security chief.

Mr. Zyuganov has tried to ride concerns about Yeltsin's health to a late campaign surge, calling the president ailing and unfit to govern Russia.

"The strain of rock concerts and long campaign trips has rendered him unable to visit even nearby places," the 52-year-old Mr. Zyuganov told a news conference Saturday. "If he is really laid up with laryngitis, why cancel meetings with public servants?"

Yeltsin's forced break from the campaign is well-timed for Mr. Zyuganov. The Communist Party functionary has been trying recently to change his stodgy image, with publi-

cised appearances dancing at a discotheque and playing volleyball.

The good news for Mr. Yeltsin's campaign Saturday: Russia's three major TV networks, all pro-Yeltsin, ignored Mr. Zyuganov's attack and only hinted that the president's health is again an issue.

Yeltsin canceled several campaign appearances last week and skipped a gathering in the Kremlin on Friday.

Political adviser Georgy Satarov said that when he met Friday with Mr. Yeltsin, the president told him he needs "another two or three days to return to his full fighting form," the Interfax news agency reported.

Mr. Yeltsin's public approval rating was in single digits as recently as January, dragged down by widespread concerns about his heart condition and disapproval of his government and erratic behaviour.

He bounced back to take the lead after a buoyant campaign that portrayed an in-command, vibrant president, with no hint of a health crisis.

Hong Kong rallies mark one year to China rule

HONG KONG (R) — Exactly a year before Britain hands Hong Kong back to China, Beijing and its supporters rubbed their hands with glee while London and some Hong Kong democrats expressed fears about the bustling territory's future.

Hong Kong marked the one-year countdown with street demonstrations on Sunday, as thousands of pro-China supporters rallied to welcome its return and the end of colonial rule.

Later, hundreds of pro-democracy activists, preceded by a band of traditional Chinese lion dancers, marched through the city streets to the Xinhua news agency, China's facto embassy in Hong Kong, to protest against Beijing's decision to replace the colony's elected legislature with an appointed body.

To the beat of drums, and a backdrop of banners declaring "Power to the people," about 300 demonstrators sat on the road outside a heavily-barricaded Xinhua and sang verses of the well-known song "We shall overcome" in Chinese.

In China, the Communist Party revelled in the prospect of regaining sovereignty over the British colony, hailing an end to 150 years of colonial humiliation. Its people's army pledged to safeguard Hong Kong's six million people.

"The return of Hong Kong to the motherland is a great and shining moment in the history of China," the Communist Party mouthpiece, the People's Daily, said in an editorial.

Today, under the leadership of the Communist Party, the people of China have stood up and finally will wash away a century of national shame," it said.

The territory reverts to China at midnight on June 30, 1997, after 150 years of colonial rule.

Outgoing ruler Britain was more concerned about whether China would honour its commitment to maintaining the freedoms London argues lie at the heart of Hong Kong's success.

Foreign secretary Malcolm Rifkind, in an

interview published in Hong Kong's South China Morning Post on Sunday, called on China to show tolerance towards the colony's biggest and most popular political party, the Democratic Party.

"I think it is in China's interest to take into account, into respect, those political leaders who clearly have the support of the people," he said.

He warned China that any move to restrict freedoms after 1997 would concern not only Britain but also the international community, but added he was confident Beijing would not crack down on what it saw as dissent.

"It would have consequences far beyond the individuals directly affected, and I am sure the Chinese will not risk such an outcome," Mr. Rifkind told the paper.

Outspoken pro-democracy legislator Emily Lau, barred by China from petitioning Beijing against the provisional legislature, addressed the same theme at the Xinhua demonstration under the watchful eye of police.

"I ask the Hong Kong to stand up not only for human rights in China, but for democracy in Hong Kong," she said. "And I ask the international community to support us."

Police allowed several protesters inside the barricades to leave a petition and small banner, "Democracy and the rule of law" on the building's doorstep.

A few blocks away, about 500 people waved flags in support of speeches by leaders of Hong Kong's main pro-China party.

One senior Chinese official told an earlier rally that activists wanting to go to Beijing to petition against dismantling the colony's elected legislature would be barred entry to China.

"Members of an alliance against the provisional legislature want to fly to Beijing on Monday to offer their opinions," said Zheng Guo Xiong, deputy director of Xinhua.

"The Chinese Public Security Bureau has informed them that they will not be allowed to enter



Pro-democracy demonstrators march by a tram station in the business Central District toward Xinhua, China's de facto embassy in Hong Kong, to protest against Beijing's decision to replace the colony's elected legislature with an appointed body, on Sunday. Hong Kong marked its one-year countdown to Chinese rule on Sunday with demonstrations and rallies (Reuters photo)

China. If they do, they must bear all the consequences," Mr. Zheng told reporters.

The seven-member delegation vowed to press ahead with its planned trip to Beijing on Monday to deliver a 60,000-signature petition against the provisional legislature.

Hong Kong journalists expressed serious misgivings over press freedom after the handover, saying there were clear indications that China intends to curb freedom of expression.

But Governor Chris Patten urged Hong Kong people in a public radio

address not to focus on the countdown to Chinese rule but to assume their lives would remain unchanged after the transfer.

"We can't count our way to a better future. We have to work for that. Argue for that. Stand up for that," Mr. Patten said.

French minister draws fire on Paris mayor scandal

PARIS (R) — French Justice Minister Jacques Toubon was at the centre of a political row on Sunday, facing opposition charges of interfering in judicial inquiries into the Paris mayor, Jean Tiberi.

Socialist Party leaders saw Mr. Toubon's hand behind a decision by the Paris public prosecutor not to probe an ethics complaint against Mr. Tiberi for his son's use of a city-owned apartment, and the withdrawal of police officers from a search of Mr. Tiberi's flat by a top anti-corruption magistrate last Thursday.

The opposition drew a direct line between the alleged abuse of influence by Mr. Tiberi and Jacques Chirac, who was Paris mayor before elected president in May 1995, and Prime Minister Alain Juppe, who was Paris deputy mayor and handled its finances.

Both Mr. Chirac and Mr. Juppe came under media scrutiny last year over their use of low-rent Paris housing. Neither was charged but Mr. Juppe pre-empted a judge's eviction order by moving out.

Mr. Toubon "is no longer the guardian of justice but the guardian of his friends," Socialist Party leader Lionel Jospin told a party convention meeting on Sunday. "This scandalous affair is truly an affair of state."

Mr. Jospin said he would make the judiciary independent if the socialists won the 1998 general election. The left-wing Magistrates Union called on Sunday for Mr. Toubon to resign, accusing him of burying sensitive cases and using the justice ministry as a political tool.

Socialist Party spokesman Francois Hollande said on Saturday: "Today we have striking proof that this government is more interested in stifling scandals than in the proper working of justice."

Mr. Toubon is an influential member of President Chirac's centre-right Gaullist party, to which Mr. Tiberi also belongs, and which is being investigated for possible illegal funding by Mr. Halphen.

Mr. Halphen had asked for three police officers to go with him to search Mr. Tiberi's apartment last

Thursday but they were told at the last minute not to go into the flat with Mr. Halphen.

The head of the Paris Criminal Police, Olivier Poll, told Sunday newspaper journal De Dimanche he took the decision to poll the officers off the search without consulting superiors.

"An inquiry is not a treasure hunt. The Republican police has to be above suspicion. It is not the secret service," he said, indicating that Mr. Halphen had not briefed his officers as was normal before the search.

Mr. Tiberi, who succeeded Mr. Chirac as mayor when Mr. Chirac was elected president, faced allegations of conflict of interest over his son Dominique's tenancy of a city-owned flat, including allegations that it was lavishly renovated at public expense.

The prosecutor ruled Mr. Jean Tiberi had not broken conflict of interest laws in the municipality's decision to let his son have the flat from 1989-95. A three-year statute of limitations for such cases meant it could not be followed up in any event.

Spain press, politicians ask Basque ETA to extend truce

MADRID (R) — As Basque ETA guerrillas neared the end of a one-week truce at midnight on Sunday, newspapers and politicians urged the separatist rebels to respond to a conciliatory move by Spain's new conservative government.

"I hope to God ETA reflects on this," Juan Maria Arutxa, interior minister in the Basque country's regional government, told reporters.

"Whatever happens from tonight onwards is ETA's responsibility," wrote the Basque daily El Correo. In Madrid, the daily El Pais echoed: "The ball is now in ETA's court more than ever before."

Hopes that peace talks could be in sight for the first time this decade rose on Saturday when ETA's political arm, Herri Batasuna, grudgingly welcomed a government decision to move 32 of the group's nearly 500 jailed members into prisons closer to the Basque country.

"The fact that (Madrid) is backtracking on the policy of distancing prisoners from the Basque country seems to us to be a good thing," Herri Batasuna spokesman Floren Aziz told a rally.

Convicted members of ETA, which has killed some 800 people in its fight for independence since 1968, are usually dispersed in prisons all over Spain to make it more difficult for them to form networks. The relocation of jailed rebels closer to their homes has been a key ETA demand for months.

The Basque daily Egin, which usually reflects ETA views and publishes rebel communiqués, provided no clues on Sunday as to whether the truce might be extended past midnight. "Keep going," it told the government in an editorial. "The closer a greater number of Basque political prisoners are to their homes, the better ... but there are still 447 to go."

But Xabier Arzalluz, president of the moderate ruling Basque Nationalist Party (PNV), said the rebels must not misread the new mood.

"I say to ETA, if you think we are begging you for (an extended) truce on our knees, you're wrong," he told a rally.

Interior Minister Jaime Mayor Oreja denied at a news conference in the Basque country on Saturday that the government move

represented a partial acceptance of ETA demands.

He said the government of new Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar had taken an individual decision on each of the 32 prisoners to be moved.

The announcement, following the ETA truce and revelations about early contacts last year, further raised hopes of a breakthrough for the first time since the last known face-to-face negotiations broke down in Algiers in 1989.

"It no longer seems like an exaggeration to state that we are now faced with a historic chance for peace," the pro-Aznar daily El Mundo wrote in an editorial on Saturday.

Argentine Nobel Peace Prize-winner Adolfo Perez Esquivel disclosed last week that ETA — the Basque-language initials for Basque Homeland and Freedom — had used him as a go-between last year in a bid to start peace talks with the government of Aznar's socialist predecessor Felipe Gonzalez. ETA announced its one-week truce last Sunday — a largely symbolic gesture, since the frequency of its attacks is far less than one a week.

Mexico government says country peaceful

MEXICO CITY (R) — The Mexican government assured its citizens late on Saturday that the country was at peace, just one day after a new armed rebel group made a brief and unexpected debut in a southwestern Mexican state.

Around 80 masked men carrying assault rifles interrupted a political rally on Friday at Aguas Blancas in Guerrero state to announce the creation of a new group called the Popular Revolutionary Army (EPR).

After reading a manifesto calling on peasants to rise up and overthrow the government and firing volleys into the air, the men disappeared into the surrounding mountains.

"There is in the country a climate of tranquillity. Twenty-four hours after the events in the State of Guerrero, there are no fresh reports of any activity related to that group (the PER) in (Guerrero)," the interior ministry said.

The ministry said in a statement issued on behalf of the whole federal government that the authorities were investigating the only armed clash reported so far between supposed EPR members and police. Hours after the gun-toting rebels made their appearance at Aguas Blancas, about 20 armed men handing out EPR propaganda clashed with police on a highway in a different part of Guerrero state, about 510 kilometres from the state capital Chilpancingo.

Suu Kyi denounces holding of political prisoners

RANGOON. Burma (AP) — Pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi denounced the holding of political prisoners Sunday during a rally before some 4,000 supporters outside her home.

"It is meaningless to imprison a person simply because of different political beliefs," Ms. Suu Kyi said. "You cannot change a person's political beliefs just by imprisoning him."

Weekend rallies outside Ms. Suu Kyi's home are virtually the only opposition activity Burma's military regime has permitted her since she was freed from six years of house arrest last July. Authorities did not interfere with Sunday's rally.

Crowds at gatherings in the past month have soared as high as 10,000 since Ms. Suu Kyi, winner of the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize, stepped up her campaign of non-violent promotion of democracy.

The most recent meetings have tapered off, however, since the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council imposed harsh new laws aimed at curbing her activities.

Ms. Suu Kyi held a 10-minute question-and-answer session with Sunday's crowd, making turns speaking with other leaders of her National League for Democracy.

"Political prisoners in jails are in poor health due to ill-treatment by prison wardens," a questioner shouted. "Are political prisoners in democratic countries being ill-treated like this?"

Ms. Suu Kyi responded that the deplorable conditions of Burma's jails, where torture of political detainees is routine, have been well-reported by U.N. human-rights experts.

"Political prisoners exist only in countries

where democracy is not practised," Ms. Suu Kyi said.

The junta detained some 262 of Ms. Suu Kyi's followers in late May to try to prevent a party congress.

Most have been freed, but anywhere from three to 20 are believed to have been sent to Insein Prison near Rangoon and face charges of violating security laws that would bring long sentences.

James Leander Nichols, 65, a former honorary consul for several Scandinavian countries and Switzerland, died of a reported stroke a week ago at Insein Prison, notorious for deplorable conditions.

The death has created a diplomatic incident. Denmark, one of the countries Mr. Nichols represented, has urged the European Union to jointly adopt sanctions against Burma with the United States.

Mr. Nichols had been arrested in April and sentenced for illegally possessing fax machines and a telephone switchboard. But his family says he was actually punished for his friendship with Ms. Suu Kyi.

Mr. Suu Kyi did not mention Mr. Nichols in her speech, but she attended a Buddhist memorial ceremony for him Friday.

A Christian ceremony that diplomats had planned to attend Sunday was apparently postponed until next week due to lack of availability of a church and Roman Catholic priest.

Mr. Nichols suffered heart trouble and diabetes. The London-based human-rights group Amnesty International has reported that Mr. Nichols was deprived of sleep for several nights before his death.

Gunmen open fire in Medellin, 16 killed

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Masked gunmen fired indiscriminately on people at a bus terminal and a pool hall in the western city of Medellin, killing at least 16 and wounding four.

Police suspect the massacre Saturday night was carried out by a criminal gang called "Los Victorinos" which is feuding with urban militias linked to leftist guerrillas.

The attack was one of the worst in recent years in Medellin, a city of 2.5 mil-

lion where militias, common criminals and other armed bands control zones in poor neighbourhoods.

Witnesses said the gunmen, who numbered about 10 and fled in cars after the shooting, asked their victims where militia chiefs were before opening fire, said Gen. Alfredo Salgado, head of Medellin police.

"It makes us suspect this was about vengeance," Salgado told RCN Radio Sunday. Three members of "Los Victorinos" were

killed Thursday in a shootout.

"Los Victorinos" is an apparent reference to a popular soap opera of the same name in which the main characters get involved in bad business and are killed.

Two people were killed at the scene at the scene of the shooting Saturday in the city's Belen neighbourhood and another 14 died while being treated in hospitals. Four others were in serious condition and under protection.

All the victims were young men between 15 and 28 years old.

In another incident Saturday, unidentified gunmen killed four men and wounded two women on a farm on the outskirts of Medellin. Violence remains high in the city despite the killing of drug boss Pablo Escobar in December, 1993. Salgado admitted there are not enough police to control the situation.

'The Middle East peace process must not be allowed to fail'

By Malcolm Rifkind

TUESDAY'S ATROCITY in Dhahran has focused the attention of the world again on the Middle East. And on Saudi Arabia in particular. It is a chilling reminder of the scourge of terrorism. But it also brings home to us just how much stake the West has there. It was American soldiers slaughtered on Tuesday, on a compound where they worked shoulder to shoulder with British and French fellow servicemen.

The devastation in Dhahran shows once again that no country — in the Middle East or elsewhere — can be immune from terrorism. Its timing is bound to give an added sense of urgency to our discussions on this subject at today's G-7 summit in Lyons. The prime minister and I will want to ensure that the full panoply of international action against terrorism is brought to bear against those who seek to under-

mine peace and stability in the Middle East and elsewhere. Another clear lesson of the Dhahran tragedy is that Islam can itself be a victim of extremists and terrorists, when terrorism masquerades as religion. We strongly oppose those who try to prevent and exploit Islam for their own malevolent ends.

On Monday I set out on a visit to Saudi Arabia and Jordan. Why does the Middle East matter so much? And what is Britain trying to do there?

Our long involvement throughout the region has yielded a legacy of close and profound friendships. These friendships remain as important today as they were in the past.

But we have moved on from Mandates, Protectorates and gunboats. We no longer talk about "spheres of influence." Today, our links with the Middle East are based on partnerships between equals.

Britain's key interest in the region is the mainte-

nance of peace and tranquillity. Not just because we are a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council with a global foreign policy. Or because peace is a valuable goal in itself. But also because we are a country which relies — more than any other — on overseas trade. We exported over £6 billion of goods in 1995 to the Middle East, an increase of 18 per cent over 1994. Over £1.6 billion of this was to Saudi Arabia and £1.1 billion to Israel. And we are increasingly buying goods in return, not just oil. Such trade, and the benefits it brings to all participants, flourishes best in an environment without conflict.

Britain is a major investor in the Middle East. The converse is also happily true. I doubt we would have much of a racing industry in Britain today were it not for Arab investors. And the whole world relies on assured access to Middle East oil at reasonable

prices: peace is a prerequisite for this. Then there are the needs of British expatriates, tens of thousands of whom live and work in the region.

So what are the threats to peace that might jeopardise these interests? I see a number of potential risks:

— A collapse in the peace process, leading to renewed Arab-Israeli conflict.

— Saddam Hussein's Iraq.

— Iran's aggressive ideology.

— Extremism and terrorism.

How should we respond to these threats? Most importantly, the Middle East peace process must not be allowed to fail. The arrival of a new Israeli government will pose a serious challenge. The language of the new government is strong: no deal on the Golan or Jerusalem, no discussion of Palestinian statehood, the expansion of settlements. If this remains Israel's position, then negotiations would be extremely

difficult. We must hope that the new Israeli government will pursue the peace process seriously. Israel has benefited enormously from it, especially in its relations with the outside world.

I see Britain's role as encouraging the new government to see Israel's interests as we see them. We believe a secure Israel is compatible with a settlement which respects Palestinian, Syrian and Lebanese interests. To ignore those interests would only store up serious trouble for the future. We must not stand back and allow that to happen.

What of Iraq? We must contain the threat posed by Saddam Hussein. We do that through sanctions and through support for U.N. efforts to end Saddam's programmes for weapons of mass destruction. He must not be allowed to threaten the region again. Saddam must be forced to renounce terrorism and to treat the Iraqi people in a civilised

manner. He must be made to account for Kuwaiti and other prisoners of war and for the property he has stolen.

These are not some kind of colonial dictates. They are obligations imposed on Iraq by the United Nations. Until Saddam fulfils them, sanctions must be maintained. But we do not want the Iraqi people to suffer as a result of his intransigence: that is why we sponsored U.N. Resolution 986, allowing Iraq to sell some oil to purchase humanitarian goods. I doubt we will see full compliance with Iraq's obligations while Saddam remains in charge. When he goes, we look forward to a mutually beneficial relationship with the new government.

We must also be wary of Iran. Iran's behaviour in many areas does not correspond to the norms of civilised behaviour. I wish it did. Iran is an important country but we cannot have normal relations while Iran supports terrorism. When it

meddles in the affairs of other countries. Or when it tries to acquire nuclear weapons to threaten its neighbours.

As long as this continues, we have to show the Iranians that we need them to change before we can deal with them normally. This means denial of economic aid. But not trade. We do not believe in total isolation of Iran. We and our European partners see "critical dialogue" with Iran as the right way ahead. The Iranian government must be brought to see that they have more to gain by good behaviour.

Britain also provides much valuable day-to-day cooperation with governments in the Middle East. We give our partners political support, engage in military cooperation, promote initiatives such as scholarships and training to help young people, and have valuable exchanges on the workings of government, the development of political institutions and on human

rights. We offer expert advice on economic restructuring — on privatisation, reform of the civil service, deregulation, and so on.

We also try to help our friends in the Middle East through active encouragement of the peaceful resolution of disputes. This is not a high-profile role. It could be counterproductive if it were. We use quiet diplomacy to assist our friends where they encourage us to do so.

The Middle East has been and will continue to be a key region, where we have profound experience and important friendships. I look forward to building on that sound base during my visit.

Mr. Rifkind is British Foreign Secretary. He is due to visit Jordan on July 3. The article is reprinted from The Guardian

Spice islands explorer lauds 19th-century naturalist

By Jim Della-Giacoma
Reuters

MANADO, Indonesia — British explorer Tim Severin has just completed a three-month voyage on a traditional fishing boat through Indonesia's remote spice islands.

But it was not the rigours of travelling on his wooden Kai islands boat or the allure of deserted beaches and uninhabited lush tropical islands that held his attention during the Odyssey.

Mr. Severin said his retracing of the spice island voyages of 19th-century British naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace had opened for him the windows of a tropical world where rare and exotic species still abound. He said his travels were a journey in the footsteps of an intellectual giant.

Tanned and taut after travelling 1,900 km, Mr. Severin and his crew arrived in Manado town on Sulawesi Island in early June after setting out from the Kai islands three months earlier.

"We've all come back with respect for Wallace. He was prescient in so many ways," Mr. Severin told Reuters aboard his two-masted replica of a traditional Kai islands wooden boat, specially built for the expedition.

"He was not your Victorian explorer with a Bible and a shotgun," he said.

Mr. Severin's team of artists, photographers and biologists was due to head home on June 20 after

wrapping up their expedition with visits to land-based national parks near Manado.

Wallace paid for his six years of expeditions (1854-1862) by collecting rare animals and sending back them back to England.

But Mr. Severin, a Briton settled in Ireland, said Wallace cared for the environment and had deep respect for traditional cultures, which was rare in his time.

Wallace concluded his classic 1869 travelogue and summary of his scientific work, "The Malay Archipelago", by observing that the morally dubious society of Victorian England had much to learn from the orient's "uncivilised savages" of the orient.

Upon publication, the lengthy book became a best-seller and made Wallace a celebrity. It remains in print.

"Wallace was extraordinarily decent. It shines through all the time that this is a hell of a nice guy," he said.

Amid the discomfort and difficulties of travelling in regions then barely touched by the modern world, Wallace maintained his sense of humour as he slugged through the mud or battled with fever.

"He pictured himself wearing glasses, stumbling through the jungle, running into spiders' webs and tripping over roots with the local guides laughing at him," Mr. Severin said.

By collecting insects, animals and plants as he traversed what is now Indonesia, Malaysia and

Singapore, Wallace formed ground-breaking theories on natural selection.

He was also the first to identify the zones in the archipelago where animals of Asian origin ended and those of Australasian origin began. This line, running north-south and found east of the islands of Kalimantan and Bali, is known as the "Wallace line".

Modern scientists have largely moved away from Wallace's sharp divisions because they say animals and plants in the archipelago are divided into zones of transition.

But Wallace unknowingly created a new division of science, bio-geography, and the zones of transition of plants and animals are now known as Wallacea in his honour.

Mr. Severin said Wallace's book stands the test of time after his team revisited many of the places described in it.

"What is clear is that an awful lot of what Wallace described is still here. It really hasn't changed very much and indeed in a couple of places it's actually better than what he saw," he said.

"He comes across as a very accurate and good descriptive writer, but also he did have a sense of the theatre and he describes things in a very flamboyant way," Mr. Severin added.

The voyage, dubbed "in search of Wallace", will be the basis of a book and television documentary on the British naturalist.

"It's a biography-travel book as I would like to bring Wallace to the atten-

tion of readers," Mr. Severin said.

Mr. Severin, an Oxford history graduate who has made a career of retracing famous journeys, believes Wallace's genius has been hidden by the naturalist's humility.

"He was so perceptive about the theory of evolution, without consulting other people," Mr. Severin said.

"He worked in isolation, compared to Charles Darwin who arrived at the theory through constant correspondence with other scientists, including Wallace," he said.

"Wallace came to his theories independently in the back of beyond and that is a very bright guy."

But even before publishing a book, Mr. Severin has allowed hundreds of Irish schoolchildren and thousands of Internet users to find Wallace on his homepage.

As he sailed through the Maluku islands, Mr. Severin used a satellite link and notebook computer to link up with educators from the University of Limerick who ran the spice islands homepage.

The home page, with voyage maps, pictures and messages, made Wallace and his work widely accessible around the globe.

"I would have found Wallace if I succeeded in making other people find him," Mr. Severin said.

S. Africa's atom agency beats swords into ploughshares

By Anton Ferreira
Reuters

PELINDABA — The government agency that helped to give Africa its first weapons of mass destruction now says it is committed to fighting hunger, disease and dust pollution.

Instead of churning out highly enriched uranium for nuclear warheads, South Africa's Atomic Energy Corporation (AEC) today sees itself contributing to primary health care in developing countries, among other challenges.

The AEC commissioned its research reactor, Safari 1, 31 years ago as part of South Africa's programme to defy anti-apartheid sanctions by making the country self-sufficient in energy and defense.

But in 1993 South Africa scrapped its six warheads. The AEC's role as a mainstay of apartheid strategy became an albatross around its neck when President Nelson Mandela's black-led government took office two years ago.

So the AEC embarked on a public relations makeover, inviting journalists to its previously top secret headquarters at Pelindaba, 20 kilometres west of Pretoria, and opening public hiking trails through the thornbush surrounding its squat concrete blockhouses and towering chimneys.

Visitors are now wel-

come to stand on a bridge over the giant water tank in which the reactor vessel sits, giving off a ghostly blue light.

As the new government cuts state spending on white-elite projects of the apartheid era, the AEC is seeking to position itself as an essential centre of research and development for industrial and medical applications of nuclear technology.

"Among these is an isotope of the metal molybdenum, cornerstone of a world nuclear medicine industry worth about \$70 million a year."

"This is really primary health care stuff," said Wouter Malan, manager of the AEC's Isotope Centre.

"If you have a bus crash with dozens of casualties for example, you can scan all the injured and you'll immediately know which ones have broken bones, which have damaged organs, and so on."

"It saves exploratory surgery and prevents wrong diagnosis," Malan said.

The medically useful molybdenum isotope is formed by bombarding enriched uranium with radiation in the safari reactor.

It is further processed to form an isotope called technetium, which is injected in liquid form into the patient. The isotope shows up on scanners, forming an image which speeds diagnosis.

AEC is holding talks

with a foreign molybdenum producer with a view to breaking into the world market in the isotope, dominated by Canada's Nordion International Inc.

The molybdenum isotope and technetium both decay relatively rapidly, which means new supplies have to be made constantly. It also means a temporary reactor failure at Nordion could interrupt world supplies.

"We are very actively marketing our product. We are seeking to form an alliance with a partner and we are trying to make ourselves very well known in the market," said Don Robertson, AEC general manager for nuclear technology products.

"The real big money in molybdenum is in exports, that's what makes it worthwhile," Robertson said, adding that AEC had "tentatively" begun exports in 1994.

"We're looking to grow over a period of five years, in molybdenum, up to sales turnover of 15 to 20 million (\$4 million to \$5 million)... but it could change markedly as molybdenum prices escalate."

Robertson predicted prices would increase because Nordion was planning an expensive programme to replace its single ageing reactor.

AEC has advanced facilities for processing highly radioactive materials, dating from the apartheid drive for self-

sufficiency, which many private companies would find prohibitively expensive to replicate.

Some of these are now mothballed but the AEC plans to use them, for example, to repack cobalt into forms suitable for cancer therapy or food irradiation.

Other products developed by AEC scientists include air filters based on lessons in aerodynamics learned from research into uranium enrichment.

AEC has sold air intake filters to NATO's Eurocopter project and provides tractor filters that trap up to 98 per cent of the dust swirling up from Africa's parched crop lands.

It makes agricultural chemicals aimed at boosting food production and has developed a fluorination treatment that allows the manufacture of plastic petrol tanks for cars.

In February AEC signed an agreement with the French company Cogema for joint development of a laser-based uranium enrichment process which would be far cheaper than current methods.

AEC Chief Executive Waldo Stumpf told reporters after that agreement was signed that the corporation hoped its exports would be earning around \$100 million a year in foreign exchange by the year 2001.

By Michael Specter

MOSCOW — The Internet has been pretty universally viewed as one of the great democratic advances of the late 20th century. Nothing in human history has ever made more information more readily available to more people at lower cost.

Perhaps only the car, the pill and the television set have had a more immediate impact on the habits of 20th century Americans. According to a recent Nielsen study, adults in the United States spend more time collectively browsing the Internet every week than they do watching videocassettes. Nearly 20 million American adults say they use the World Wide Web regularly and as many as 3 million have bought goods or services on the Web.

Yo, Cairo!
The impact overseas has been at least as dramatic. If you live in Cairo, Jakarta or Vladivostok you can now exchange information with people from Athens, Lima

or Lake Louise. For many, educational opportunities that could not even be imagined 10 years ago are only a few key strokes away. To study molecular genetics, all you need to get into the Harvard University Library, or the medical library at Sweden's Karolinska Institute, is a phone line and a computer.

And, it turns out, a solid command of the English language. Because whether you are a French intellectual pursuing the cutting edge of international film theory, a Japanese paleobotanist curious about a newly discovered set of primordial fossils, or an American teenager concerned about Magic Johnson's jump shot, the Internet and World Wide Web really only work as great unifiers if you speak English.

Mostly that's by accident. The Internet started in the United States, and the computer hackers whose reality has always been virtual are almost all American. By the time the net spread, its linguistic patterns — like its principal architecture and

World, Wide, Web — three English words

best software — were all made in the USA. That's not surprising since English has become the international language of commerce and communication — and since educated foreigners are far more likely to learn a second language than are any class of Americans. But increasingly that language must be English.

'Colonialism'

"It is just incredible when I hear people talking about how open the Web is," said Anatoly Voronov, the director of Glasnet, Russia's best-known Internet provider. "It is the ultimate act of intellectual colonialism. The product comes from America so we either must adapt to English or stop using it. That is the right of any business. But if you are talking about a technology that is supposed to open the world to hundreds of millions of people you are joking. This just makes the world into new sorts of haves and have

nots."

There are of course plenty of Web pages in Russia, Japanese, French, German and Chinese. It is possible for anybody in almost any country to carry on an electronic relationship with other people who speak his or her language. And eventually computers may help translate a search from one language to another.

But for now if you want to take full advantage of the Internet there is only one real way to do it: learn English, which has more than ever become America's greatest and most effective export (carrying with it immense cultural power). It has been estimated that there are now more people who speak English as a foreign language than speak it as their first language. English is already the language of diplomacy, scientific discourse, air traffic control. But the implications of turning an international computer network into another plat-

form for English — and the values it automatically carries — are immense.

With the ascendancy of English and the proliferation of the net, some people wonder whether the new world order is really going to exist on two levels — on one a cosmopolitan community that chatters away in the language of Shakespeare and Berra, and on the other a new world of cultural and intellectual ghettos for people incapable of taking advantage of what is out there in English. Information no longer comes wrapped in tidy packages — accessible to those with a library card or money to buy books. These days information, and the power it confers, are sitting at the end of 100 million keyboards. But instead of uniting the millions of people who have access to computers and phone lines, the Internet, and the World Wide Web, can be seen in central ways as capable of dividing them.

As Glasnet's Mr. Voronov puts it: "It is far easier for a Russian language speaker with a computer to download the works of Dostoyevsky translated into English to read than it is for him to get the original in his own language. Why shouldn't Pushkin or Lermontov be more available in Russian?" For the moment the answer is simple: the demand is not big enough to make it worth anybody's while to provide such services. Eventually, that will probably change.

Have and Have-Nots
Clearly in the short term this sets up a class distinction between the English-speaking elites and the non-English-speaking have-nots," said David Shenk, a fellow at the Freedom Forum Media Studies Centre at Columbia University who is writing a book on the information glut produced by the Internet. Mr. Shenk likens the absolute supremacy of English on the Web

now to what happens as any major industry starts up.

"When it became such an important commodity the people sitting on it became rich," he wrote, in an interview carried out on the Internet. "Many English-speaking Russians and Chinese and Arabs will probably make a bundle using the new medium as a channel for commerce." But Mr. Shenk, like many others, says the Web changes too fast to be likely to be using English forever as its only international language. "Be careful of turning astute observations about the current state of the Web into implications for the future," he said.

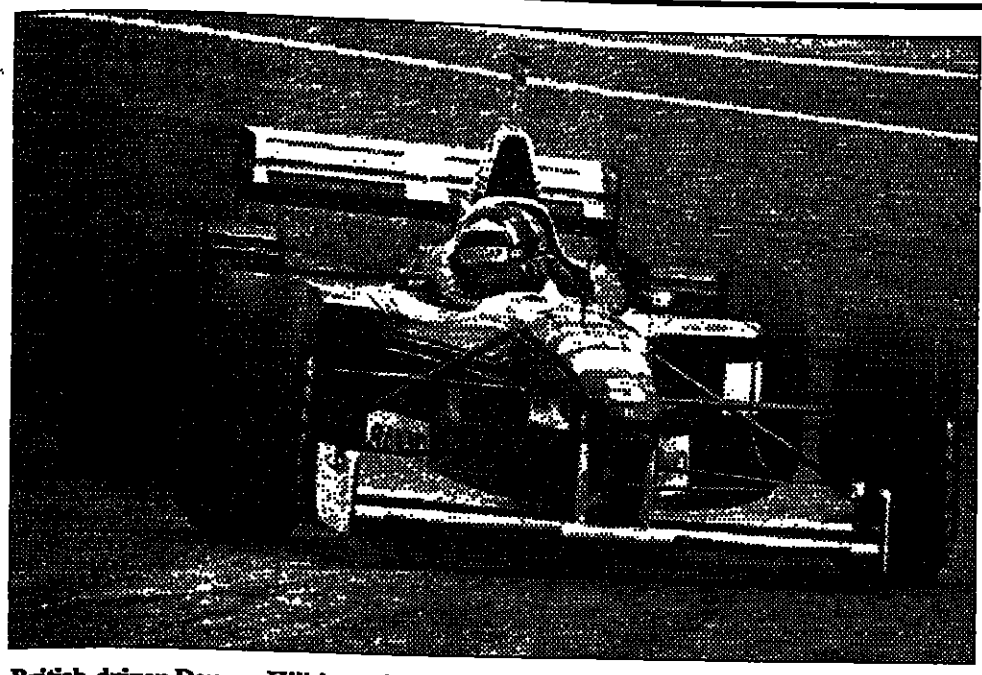
As the Web grows the number of people on it who speak French, say, or Russian will become more varied and that variety will be expressed on the Web. That is why it is a fundamentally democratic technology. But it won't necessarily happen soon.

According to Christian Huitema, who is on the board of the Internet Soci-

ety, which tries to set world standards, it takes about 2 million potential customers to establish a workable market. Japan now has close to 3 million, and it has become far less dependent upon and bothered by the hegemony of English than many other countries. "As the Internet grows, the body of people speaking other languages than English will grow as well," said Mr. Huitema.

"The effect of the Internet is to make information available at minimum cost and effort," he said. "This is most beneficial to the current 'have-nots' of our societies. High school students in desolate urban areas or university students in Africa can gain information on the Internet that is currently available only in the libraries of educated parents or Ivy League Universities. Learning basic English in order to reap that benefit seems like a sensible investment."

The New York Times



British driver Damon Hill in action to win the French Grand Prix ahead Canadian Jacques Villeneuve and French Jean Alesi. Hill increased his margin over Williams teammate Jacques Villeneuve to 25 points as they finished one-two in the French Grand Prix (Reuters photo)

Hill wins French Grand Prix; Schumacher out early

MAGNY COURS, France (AP) — It was a red-letter day for the blue-and-white Williams team but a dark day for the red Ferraris. Damon Hill captured the French Grand Prix Sunday after two-time defending champion and pole position Michael Schumacher's Ferrari blew an engine on the warmup lap.

Hill's teammate, Jacques Villeneuve, followed Hill across the line, 8.1 seconds behind, to give Williams-Renault its second consecutive one-two finish and fourth of the season.

The Ferraris, meanwhile, lasted a total of five laps. "There were no problems in the race, everything went fantastic. I was a bit worried when Michael's engine blew up," Hill said. "I had to back off. His car was spraying a lot of oil. It made the race a whole lot easier."

The Benetton-Renaults of Jean Alesi and Gerhard Berger in third and fourth to give Renault the top four positions in a Grand Prix, the first time ever for the French engine.

Renault and ELF, the engine and fuel suppliers for the Williams and Benetton teams recently announced it will end its Formula One activities Renault after next 1997 and ELF after this season.

Mika Hakkinen and David Coulthard, in McLaren-Mercedes, were fifth and sixth. Only five cars were on the same lap as Hill.

At Monaco he crashed on the first lap after leading qualifying.

"The fact that we would have reliability problems is something I was aware of from the moment I started working for Ferrari," the German said. "However I thought we would have them at the start of the season."

It was a bad day for the Ferraris. Eddie Irvine, after starting last because of a technical violation in the qualifying, went out five laps into the race with a gear box failure.

"It's an uncomfortable situation for us all, for the team and for me. But unfortunately that is part of the racing sport," Schumacher said.

This time it was a reverse of fortunes for Hill and Schumacher as Hill increased his lead in the drivers standings. He now has 63 with Villeneuve at 38. Schumacher is still third at 26 points, one point ahead of Alesi.

Hill led qualifying the last three years but had three consecutive second places in the race.

This time he led for nearly the entire race, losing the lead briefly after the

first pit stop 27 laps into the race.

Hill went back into first when Villeneuve pitted after the 31st lap and held the lead from there although the Canadian cut the margin down to 7.3 seconds after 49 laps.

That was the closest as Villeneuve went in for tires and fuel on the next lap while Hill waited until the 53rd after building the lead back up.

After Hill came out of the pits the second time with 18 laps to go, he had a comfortable lead and won easily.

Villeneuve had had a hard crash in Saturday's qualifying.

"The guys did a great job working overnight to get the car ready," Villeneuve said. "And then there was a little work on my neck to make sure I would be able to last the whole race."

"At least I could move my neck, the muscle was stretched," Villeneuve said. "Halfway through the race it started to hurt."

The next race is the British Grand Prix at Silverstone, July, 14.

Kinane Irish Derby jinx goes on

DUBLIN (R) — Trainer Dermot Weld lifted his Irish Derby jinx at the Curragh Sunday, but the wait goes on for his jockey Mick Kinane. Irishman Kinane has won top races all over the world in a distinguished riding career.

But in the Irish Derby, his home classic, he has finished a frustrating second three times in 16 rides.

On Sunday, he deserted 20-1 winner Zagreb, trained by Weld, in favour of the 9-4 second favourite, the English raider Dr. Massini, who trailed in seventh of the 13 runners.

Lucky substitute jockey Pat Shanahan said: "If I'd had the choice I would have probably picked Dr. Massini. Zagreb (only) won a maiden (race) and got beaten the next time."

"But we have always thought a lot of him. I expected Zagreb to run well and I thought he would finish in the first four or five."

"Michael is allowed one mistake and he's made it. I saw him afterwards and he said well done," disappointed Kinane said. "Dr. Massini never travelled...I didn't make a good call but I am delighted for the connections, especially Pat." Weld, who has also won races all over the world but failed to land his home derby until Sunday, said: "In 11 years with Michael we have proved we have a unique relationship and it will last as long as he rides and I train."

"I would have loved him to ride today but circumstances were such that he wanted to ride Dr. Massini because he thought he had a winning chance."

Germany wins Euro 96 with 1st 'golden goal'

LONDON (AFP) — Olivier Bierhoff came off the bench to score two dramatic goals as Germany came from behind to beat the Czech Republic 2-1 and win the European Championship final with the first ever golden goal at Wembley Sunday.

Bierhoff was sent on midway through the second half and scored with a header just minutes after his arrival to cancel out a controversial penalty that put the Czechs into a shock lead.

Four minutes into extra-time, the 28-year-old Uddinese striker capped a remarkable appearance, and secured Germany's third European crown with an excellent left-footed strike from the edge of the box that crept over the line after Petr Kouba got a glove to his clinical strike.

But there was to be no repeat of the 1976 success over the Germans for the Czechs who took a shock lead on the hour when Italian referee Pierluigi Paireto awarded a dubious penalty after Matthias Sammer had brought down Karel Poborsky on the edge of the box.

Paireto had no hesitation in pointing to the spot as Wembley, boosted to capacity by thousands of Englishmen looking to the Czechs to avenge England's semifinal defeat to Germany, erupted in delight.

Patrick Berger, one of the three Czechs in the side who play in the Bundesliga, converted from the spot but television replays showed that Sammer's challenge was a yard outside the area.

But with 20 minutes to go, the Germans were back on terms when Christian Ziege curled in a left-footed freekick from the right.

The Czech defence barely moved as 28-year-old substitute



The Czech Republic's Karel Poborsky (top) is fouled by Matthias Sammer of Germany for a penalty in the Euro 96 Cup final at Wembley, June 30. The Germans went on to win the match 2-1 in extra-time under the 'Golden Goal' rule (Reuters photo)

tute Bierhoff timed his run to perfection and placed his header to the right of Petr Kouba just minutes after coming on for Mehmet Scholl.

Amongst the capacity Wembley crowd were Queen Elizabeth II and her husband the Duke of Edinburgh, British Prime Minister John Major, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Czech President Vaclav Havel as well as a host of other dignitaries and celebrities.

After a spectacular closing ceremony, though, attention quickly turned to the football as clear favourites Germany made plain their attacking intentions from the outset.

Boosted by the return of striker Jurgen Klinsmann, Germany dominated possession in the first half.

The Germans, looking for their third European title and their first since 1980, had the Czechs on the back foot in the early exchanges without managing a clear shot on goal.

But it was the Czechs who had the first genuine chance of a match being watched by over 400 million people in 195 countries, only for Liverpool-linked Karel Poborsky to volley over the crossbar from a superb cross by Kuka.

The Czechs, 150 to one to

win the tournament after their 2-0 defeat to Germany in the opening Group C match, looked content to soak up the pressure and hit the Germans with quick counter-attacks.

But with Klinsmann troubled by his calf injury and Kuntz woefully off-target on at least three occasions, the sense that a shock was on the cards began to grow amongst a Wembley crowd that had thrown its noisy support behind the underdog Czechs.

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Iraq disarmament makes little progress, says Ekeus

Kuwaitis mark 50 years of oil exports, wealth

KUWAIT (R) — U.N. chief arms inspector Rolf Ekeus said on Sunday his mission to scrap Iraq's war arsenal had made little progress recently because Baghdad had failed to account for several missiles and chemical weapons.

But he added Baghdad had taken an important step forward on what he called operational issues by agreeing to allow his inspectors unconditional access to sites they wished to visit.

"We have had no change with regard to the substantive issues," Rolf Ekeus, head of a U.N. special commission on disarming Kuwait's former occupier, said on a visit to Kuwait.

"We still have concern about items which have not been accounted for like missiles and chemical weapons and other items. So that on substance we haven't seen much change, but on operational issues we are hopeful."

He was referring to an agreement he struck with Iraqi authorities in Baghdad on June 22 allowing his inspectors immediate, unconditional and unrestricted access to sites they wished to inspect.

"This is an important step and we hope it will be translated into practice," Mr. Ekeus told reporters. "This is a written undertaking and we will see if it is translated into practice."

Ridding Iraq of weapons of mass destruction is a key requirement before sanctions on oil exports can be lifted. Iraq has been under stringent trade sanctions since its troops invaded Kuwait in August 1990.

Mr. Ekeus visited Baghdad after the Security Council condemned Iraq's refusal three weeks ago to give U.N. inspectors access to a number of military sites that Iraq said were sensitive from the point of view of its national security or sovereignty.

Mr. Ekeus, who arrived from a visit to Turkey on Saturday, was expected to meet government officials. Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Saudoun and European Union ambassadors on Sunday. On Monday he is due to meet the emir.

Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah.

Mr. Ekeus was attending celebrations in the Kuwaiti oil township of Ahmadi south of Kuwait City marking the 50th anniversary of the start of Kuwaiti oil exports.

The emir marked the anniversary by turning a gold-plated handle on a valve opening a symbolic export pipeline in front of applauding dignitaries outside Ahmadi oil township.

The ceremony was held in blistering desert heat near a site where Sheikh Jaber's father, Sheikh Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, turned a silver wheel to open a real pipeline and send out the first export consignment on June 30, 1946.

"To many, it was the day we became rich," said Ezzat Jaafar, 84, an adviser to the ruling Sabah family who helped Sheikh Ahmad turn the wheel at the 1946 ceremony. "Everybody was happy — everybody."

Mr. Ekeus said that the Iraqis had made a "valuable contribution" to the disarmament process.

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PILGRIMS ARRIVE ON A MOUNTAIN NEAR THE VILLAGE OF PRUSAC: Pilgrims with Muslim flags arrive on top of a hill near the village of Prusac in central Bosnia Sunday. Over ten thousand people arrived in the village for religious pilgrimage that has got 480-year-old tradition (Reuters photo)

Big powers want Karadzic to quit definitively

LONDON (R) — The big powers on Sunday called on Bosnian Serb "President" Radovan Karadzic to quit definitively after an announcement that he had handed over power to his deputy but would retain his title.

Heads of the Group of Seven industrialised nations urged Mr. Karadzic to quit immediately at a summit meeting which closed on Saturday in the central French city of Lyon and threatened to impose sanctions if the Bosnian peace accord was violated.

Mr. Karadzic's deputy Biljana Plavsic said on Sunday that Mr. Karadzic had relinquished all power to her but kept his title as head of state which would be in defiance of international demands for his resignation.

Her statement was variously interpreted. "We've seen the same news reports that you've seen. Those are just reports," White House spokesman David Johnson told reporters. "We don't know for sure what his status is."

Reiterating White House policy on Mr. Karadzic, Mr. Johnson said: "Our policy on him remains what we have said in the past: That he needs to be not only out of power but he needs to be out of influence, out of town and in the dock."

Their patience with the defiant Mr. Karadzic at an end, leaders of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialised nations — the United States, France, Germany, Italy, Britain, Japan, Canada — joined forces with Russia to deliver the Lyon ultimatum.

International peace coordinator Carl Bildt had set a deadline of Monday for Mr. Karadzic's departure.

France said it now expected "the Karadzic resignation to be complete and definitive, and that he will not participate in any way in the campaign for the September 14 Bosnian elections."

"We will judge by his actions," the foreign ministry said.

Mr. Bildt announced on Sunday morning that Mr. Karadzic, who is wanted for trial for alleged war crimes in the Bosnian war, had resigned in favour of Ms. Plavsic.

But Ms. Plavsic said Mr. Karadzic would remain president until September 14 when inter-ethnic elections are due to create post-war democratic institutions for the Serb and Muslim-Croat entities in Bosnia.

German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel welcomed Mr. Bildt's news but added that the German government and the international community want Mr. Karadzic "to disappear from the political stage completely."

Britain promised to monitor Republika Srpska closely to ensure that Mr. Karadzic does not "exert his malign influence behind the scenes."

On Ms. Plavsic's statement, Mr. Bildt's spokesman Colum Murphy said the Serbs were playing a double game and this would have to be addressed by the international community.

Mr. Bildt was given this week "explicit assurances" which were in contradiction to what Ms. Plavsic said, Mr. Murphy said.

"If Mr. Karadzic in Pale is telling his people one thing and the international community another then that discrepancy is of the most serious kind and the high representative will have to answer it in coming days."

"The international community cannot be toyed with indefinitely in this extremely frivolous manner," he added.

Western officials in Sarajevo said Mr. Bildt appeared to have been outmanoeuvred by Mr. Karadzic for the second time in a month.

"I think Carl Bildt has been misled by the Bosnian Serb leadership," a NATO peacekeeping officer said. "This looks like a massive own goal to me."

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Smoke in cabin spooks plane's passengers

PORT LAUDERDALE, Florida (AP) — About two dozen passengers walked off a Sun Jet International DC-9 at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport after smoke started coming through overhead vents. The passengers on Saturday's flight told the Sun-Sentinel of Fort Lauderdale that they remembered there were reports of smoke in the cabin just before ValuJet Flight 592 crashed in the Everglades May 11 killing 110 people. That plane also was a DC-9. "You can't blame the passengers for pulling out, especially with what happened a month ago," said Michael Larkin, of Jupiter, who switched his 11-year-old daughter to another carrier. The smoke on Sun Jet flight 315 was traced to an overheated fan in the plane's air-conditioning system. The problem was not deemed serious enough to ground the plane, and the flight departed from Fort Lauderdale at about 5 p.m., 90 minutes behind schedule. It arrived without incident in Newark at 8:10 p.m. The passengers who left the flight were not refunded the cost of their \$79 to \$149 tickets because the flight was not cancelled, said Rafael Yaipen, Sun Jet station manager.

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Israeli police surround tribal site

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